

NEWS ROUNDUP

IRA blast outside judge's house

An IRA car bomb exploded yesterday outside the home in Belfast of Judge Donald Murray, a crown-court judge, damaging the building but causing no injuries. A warning was given.

The attackers used a car taken from a house in the Falls Road area, holding the occupants hostage.

● The IRA yesterday denied causing an explosion which killed a man and injured 15 people in Londonderry late on Wednesday night but police reject the denial. Three bombs were planted without warning in a predominantly Protestant housing estate in the Waterside by terrorists who hijacked a car in the mainly Catholic Bogside area.

The dead man was Mr Gerry Doherty, a retired milkman and one of the few Roman Catholics living on the estate.

● Dessie O'Hare, known as the Border Fox, is expected to appear at Dublin's Special Criminal Court before Christmas, charged in connection with the kidnapping of Mr John O'Grady last October.

Unionists Blasts at in talks university

Mr James Moloney, leader of the Official Unionists, and the Rev Ian Paisley, leader of the Democratic Unionists, are to hold a further round of talks with the Government next month aimed at breaking the political deadlock in Northern Ireland.

The Government hopes the two leaders will outline their ideas for an alternative to the Anglo-Irish agreement so that talks can be widened.

Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, met the two men in London yesterday but no details were released.

A series of powerful explosions rocked Leeds University yesterday as a fire broke out in the civil engineering building.

Several hundred students and staff were evacuated from the building in Woodhouse Lane and families near by were told to stay indoors as chemical fumes swept the area.

Four people were treated in hospital for injuries caused by flying glass.

The university said there were some oxyacetylene cylinders in the building. Damage could total £250,000.

Union rift widens

Relations between moderates and Militant Tendency supporters in Britain's largest Civil Service union, the Civil and Public Services Association, deteriorated further yesterday when Mr John Ellis, the general secretary, threatened to take legal action against Mr John Macreadie, his Militant deputy.

Mr Ellis is incensed with an interview his deputy gave to the London Broadcasting Company, the independent local radio station, in which Mr Macreadie accused the general secretary and the "right wing in the union" of constantly "running to the press with concocted stories and lies". Mr Ellis has passed a transcript of the interview to his solicitors.

Coxswain has virus

The woman who coxed Cambridge to victory in last year's Boat Race has contracted meningitis.

Miss Carole Burton, aged 22, is a patient at Addenbrookes, in Cambridge, the hospital where she is studying medicine. Yesterday the hospital said she was "seriously ill".

● Kevin McCarthy, aged 21 and a student from Liverpool, has died in Portsmouth, Hampshire, 24 hours after contracting meningitis. Three others from Portsmouth are being treated for the disease.



Ship contracts plea

The Government should enter into contracts with British shipowners to ensure that enough vessels are available for defence in time of war, a new report says.

The document, "The Future of the British Merchant Fleet" was published yesterday by the General Council of British Shipping.

The report puts forward the idea of a Merchant Navy Strategic Investment Grant for new ships which would be available in war.

Sellafield scheme

A £130 million contract is due to be signed next month for a treatment plant designed virtually to end discharges of radioactive waste from the Sellafield reprocessing plant into the Irish Sea.

It will create 300 jobs at the Cumbrian plant and secure the jobs of 250 workers of the contractors, Davy McKee Nuclear, of Stockton, Teesside.

BA bid boosted by go-ahead on licence hearing

By Harvey Elliott
Air Correspondent

Lord King of Warrnambool appeared last night to have manoeuvred British Airways into an unassailable position in the battle for British Caledonian.

The Civil Aviation Authority gave him the whip hand yesterday when it decided to go ahead with a formal public hearing into British Airways' application to revoke all B-Cal's licences in the event of the Gatwick-based company becoming involved with the Scandinavian airline SAS.

It means B-Cal is committed to a long and complex process of arguing the case for a deal with SAS, which could drag on until May and possibly June.

By then the airline could be facing severe financial difficulties. British Airways is convinced B-Cal's many institutional investors will not be prepared to hang on to their shares during such a long period of uncertainty and confusion.

The SAS team will spend the next 48 hours trying to find ways of matching the British Airways offer in hard

cash terms. It was made plain to SAS by the B-Cal board that the existing shareholders now support the British Airways bid as the better deal.

Even if SAS does come up with more money many B-Cal shareholders believe the uncertainties surrounding any new SAS offer and the long and tortuous process of persuading first the CAA and then Mr Paul Channon, the Secretary of State for Transport, to approve the deal, represent too great a risk.

It is now confidently predicted that the matter will

finally be resolved by Christmas. Already a growing number of B-Cal shareholders have indicated they are prepared to grab the British Airways offer of cash in return for all their shares rather than hang on in the hope of getting a slightly better deal from SAS for less than a quarter of their shares.

When British Airways first applied to the CAA to revoke all B-Cal's licences on the ground that it would otherwise be allowing control of an important British airline to fall into the hands of a foreign carrier, Sir Adam Thomson, chairman of B-Cal, urged the

CAA to reject the application as unfounded. It was bound to fail, he said and was clearly designed only to create deliberate uncertainty.

Yesterday, however, the CAA said it would press ahead with the formal hearing. The authority rejected Sir Adam's pleas for a quick decision.

In a letter to the B-Cal chairman, the authority said it believed it likely that other holders of air transport licences would want to give evidence. The letter continued: "The authority regards it as important that they should

have the opportunity to consider their positions".

The hearing is likely to take place in late February and last between one and two weeks. The CAA could then take a month to make its own decision.

Which ever way that decision goes, one party or the other is certain to appeal to Mr Channon. He is unlikely to make a formal pronouncement before May or even June, by which time B-Cal could be worth far less than it is today, especially if it is affected by a loss of confidence among its passengers.

'Blackspots' in hospital waiting lists warning

By Jill Sherman, Social Services Correspondent

Government initiatives to reduce hospital waiting lists are unlikely to have any significant effect, health managers said yesterday.

Modest improvements in reducing the length of stay in some areas concealed severe and persistent blackspots, they said. In some cases, falling waiting lists meant the districts had overspent their budgets, and were having to curtail operations again.

Health authorities said that they would be able to balance their books only by drawing on reserves and deferring payment of some bills until after the end of the financial year.

"It's Catch-22. Authorities are spending money on schemes which improve their efficiency and help to cut waiting lists, but in doing so they are going over budget, and they are having to close wards to save money, which puts waiting lists back up again", one spokesman said.

Next March, the first figures on waiting lists since the Government set up its £25 million fund to reduce them will be published.

However, a Press Association survey released yesterday gave these figures:

East Anglia: Patients on waiting lists were cut from 29,000 in March 1985 to just over 28,000 in March 1987, but at the cost of pushing the authority £4 million over budget.

South East Thames: Patients on lists rose from 49,766 to 52,038, including waiting lists of more than a year for ophthalmology in Canterbury and Thanet and in Eastbourne.

North East Thames: 86,000 people are on lists, with the worst delays in orthopaedics, general surgery, ear, nose and throat categories.

North West Thames: Waiting lists decreased from 43,402 in 1986 to 42,655 this September.

South West Thames: 25 per cent of the 36,687 on waiting lists have been waiting more than a year, an increase of about 1,000 on the previous 12 months.

Oxford: An increase from 32,271 to 32,944 was reported in the three months before this September, but there has been

an overall fall in the year from 33,249.

South Western: Over the past year, the waiting list has stayed stable at about 43,600 but is beginning to drop; 11 per cent more patients have been treated.

West Midlands: The number of people waiting seems to be falling, but in some specialities, there are delays of two years. At end of September, 76,959 were waiting, compared with 79,266 last March.

Merseyside: Lists have been reduced from 40,000 patients four years ago to about 29,000 today. Extra staff and new facilities have eased the problem.

Ulster: Waiting list figures have risen by more than 6,000 in five years, to 26,341 this June.

East Anglia: Latest figures show just over 28,000 patients waiting in March, up from 27,352 a year ago.

North West: Waiting lists slumped between March and September this year by 3.6 per cent, after health authority and government initiatives. The number waiting for more than a year — all non-urgent cases — fell by 5 per cent.

Wales: Statistics show an overall cut. The number of inpatient cases waiting for treatment decreased by 2.5 per cent from 42,449 people to 41,399 between March 1986 and this March.

Mid-Glamorgan's out-patient waiting lists, proportionately some of the longest in Britain, were cut from 18,274 to 16,911.

Wessex: Although waiting lists have increased slightly, the number of those having to wait more than 12 months for surgery has decreased. Between March 1986 and this March, waiting lists increased to nearly 44,000, a rise of about 1,000.

Wiltshire and Humberside: There has been an increase this year to 47,643, compared with 45,440 last year.

However, the number of people waiting for treatment for more than a year has fallen from 10,440 to 9,120.

North: The waiting list for admissions is 37,420. Another 9,596 people are waiting for day-case admissions.

Parliament, page 4

Death blamed on cuts



Mr and Mrs Davies at home with photographs of Alexander, who died, aged two days

Continued from page 1

directly caused by lack of care and a shortage of staff and facilities.

Mrs Davies, aged 38, from Newtown Common, near Newbury, said yesterday that when her labour began she had to remain in an ante-natal ward at the hospital instead of being transferred to the labour ward, as that was full and the maternity unit staff fully occupied.

She also complains that she was supervised by a trainee midwife and was thus unable to be monitored by the equipment in the labour ward, which would at once have revealed irregularities in her baby's heart beat.

She says that prompt action could then have been taken to save him. When she was finally taken to the labour ward it was discovered that the baby's heart had stopped.

He was resuscitated and placed on a life-support machine but died two days later. He was her first child.

Her general practitioner, Dr Paul Millard, and the consultant obstetrician in charge of her case, Mr Edmund Holt, yesterday confirmed her account and said they were associating themselves fully with her complaint.

Dr Millard said: "This baby died simply because there were not the resources to keep it alive. Its death is directly

attributable to the lack of resources in the hospital.

"It is an extremely caring, very efficient, very good maternity unit, but the staff were all working and caring for other women who needed them: there were just not enough staff."

"I can't find the words to express the anger I feel."

Midwives were 22 per cent down on the funded establishment and 30 per cent under what the medical staff considered to be necessary.

Dr Peter Phillips, chairman of the West Berkshire Health Authority, said a full-scale investigation would be made into Mr and Mrs Davies' complaint.

Treasury delays fund for research

By Robert Matthews, Technology Correspondent

A £400 million initiative to boost research and development collaboration between universities and industry is being held up by the Treasury, according to leading British technology companies.

Called Link, the scheme was launched last December by Sir Geoffrey Pattie, former Minister of State at the Department of Trade and Industry.

The Government declared that it would support half the

cost of collaborative research in specific areas such as electronics and robotics, to a total of about £200 million over five years. The other half would come from industry.

However, not a single collaborative project has yet been announced.

The delay comes after the introduction of new accounting procedures by the Treasury that R&D directors of leading companies claim throws far more than half the

cost of collaboration onto industry.

Under the current rules, if a company provides two scientists for a project for £30,000, the Treasury rules mean that their overheads are automatically taken to be another £30,000.

However, the real overheads can easily be far more than this figure and the Government is not carrying anything like half of the true cost of the collaboration.



Mr Ian Gornall: "No incentives for NHS staff" very hard working. They need recognition but at the moment they are tired of being pushed around."

This year doctors at the Royal Berkshire took the unprecedented step of advertising in a local newspaper to protest against the closure of four wards and two other wards in the district in an attempt to avoid a £1.3 million overspend. The health authority said the closures would lead to 3,500 cancelled operations.

West Berkshire has acquired a new general manager, Mr Michael Taylor, from St Bartholomew's Hospital, London, which is renowned for its income generation schemes and joint plans with the private sector.

Mr Taylor, who took up his post in July, has changed management structures, cut management units from seven to three and strengthened the role of nurse managers.

● A doctor has been suspended after telling the media that planned cuts in the family planning service could lead to a rise in unwanted pregnancies.

Dr Gillian Cardy, Bath's senior family planning officer, will appear before a disciplinary hearing of the district health authority next week.

Correction

One of the new purpose-built cancer centres for Essex is planned for Colchester, not Chelmsford as reported on December 16.

Stocks: The Times yesterday's closing prices: Australia 20.25, Belgium 18.75, Canada 22.00, Denmark 12.00, France 100.00, Germany 100.00, Greece 100.00, Hong Kong 100.00, India 100.00, Italy 100.00, Japan 100.00, Korea 100.00, Malaysia 100.00, Mexico 100.00, New Zealand 100.00, Norway 100.00, Portugal 100.00, Singapore 100.00, South Africa 100.00, Spain 100.00, Sweden 100.00, Switzerland 100.00, Taiwan 100.00, Thailand 100.00, Turkey 100.00, USA 100.00, Venezuela 100.00.

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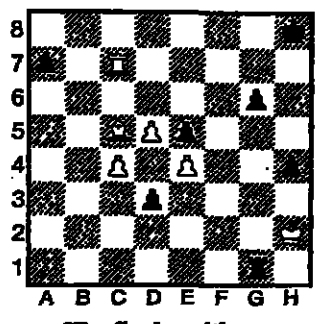
Kasparov presses self-destruct button

By Raymond Keene, Chess Correspondent, Seville

Gary Kasparov, the world chess champion, blew himself apart in the second session of the adjourned twenty-third game last night.

Overnight analysis of the position showed that Anatoly Karpov, playing white, had superior chances in spite of Kasparov's heavy pressure in the open f file.

Nevertheless, when play resumed, Karpov proceeded in a curiously hesitant fashion. Black's structure was riddled with pawn weaknesses but although the challenger was willing to wound he was just as clearly afraid to strike.



The final position.

On move 49, he started to repeat the position. On move 50, he withdrew his rook from the menacing e6 square, deep in the heart of the black position, to the last-threatening c6. As if overcome by a rush of

blood to the head by Karpov's passive tactics, Kasparov quite unnecessarily sacrificed a rook on move 50 and Karpov promptly refuted it with his bishop on move 53.

Grandmasters were baffled by Kasparov's dramatic self-destruction. After Karpov's dilly-dally handling of the initial stages of the session, Kasparov had virtually pulled the game back to level terms.

It is a tragedy for the champion that he could not continue to control his nerves and dig in for a long defence. Karpov now leads by 12 points to 11, with only one game to play, which must begin on Friday.

White	Black	White	Black
1 e4	c5	30 Rb1	Rc7
2 Nf3	d5	31 Rb1	Rc7
3 Nc3	d5	32 Rac1	Rc4
4 cxd5	Rxc5	33 Qd2	Rf7
5 bxc3	Rc5	34 Qd2	Rf7
6 bxc3	g5	35 Qd2	Rf4
7 g3	g5	36 Rf1	Qc6
8 Qd2	g5	37 Qd2	Qc6
9 Q-Q	Qc7	38 Rf1	Qc6
10 Rf1	g5	39 Rf1	Rf2
11 Qd2	g5	40 Rf1	Rf2
12 Rf1	g5	41 Rf1	g5
13 Q-Q	g5	42 Rf1	Qc7
14 Q-Q	g5	43 Rf1	Qc7
15 Rf1	g5	44 Rf1	Qc7
16 Rf1	g5	45 Rf1	Qc7
17 Rf1	g5	46 Rf1	Qc7
18 Rf1	g5	47 Rf1	Qc7
19 Rf1	g5	48 Rf1	Qc7
20 Rf1	g5	49 Rf1	Qc7
21 Rf1	g5	50 Rf1	Qc7
22 Rf1	g5	51 Rf1	Qc7
23 Rf1	g5	52 Rf1	Qc7
24 Rf1	g5	53 Rf1	Qc7
25 Rf1	g5	54 Rf1	Qc7
26 Rf1	g5	55 Rf1	Qc7
27 Rf1	g5	56 Rf1	Qc7
28 Rf1	g5	57 Rf1	Qc7
29 Rf1	g5	58 Rf1	Qc7
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37 Rf1	g5	66 Rf1	Qc7
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41 Rf1	g5	70 Rf1	Qc7
42 Rf1	g5	71 Rf1	Qc7
43 Rf1	g5	72 Rf1	Qc7
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47 Rf1	g5	76 Rf1	Qc7
48 Rf1	g5	77 Rf1	Qc7
49 Rf1	g5	78 Rf1	Qc7
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51 Rf1	g5	80 Rf1	Qc7
52 Rf1	g5	81 Rf1	Qc7
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167 Rf1	g5	196 Rf1	Qc7
168 Rf1	g5	197 Rf1	Qc7
169 Rf1	g5	198 Rf1	Qc7
170 Rf1	g5	199 Rf1	Qc7
171 Rf1	g5	200 Rf1	Qc7

Business leaders of the future 'lurk in the most unlikely places'

Prince in challenge to City over sharing success with youth

By Andrew Morgan

The Prince of Wales urged the City yesterday to share its success with young people from deprived inner city areas to show them that business care about their well-being and the community in which they lived.

The Prince had been invited to give this year's Stock Exchange chairman's lecture and chose "Youth in Business" as his subject. He also spoke of the North's "wonderful" human potential, spirit and enthusiasm, referring to two examples of enterprise in Halifax, West Yorkshire, through Business in the Community schemes.

"The City should respond by making sure that our regional areas achieve a comparative billing with foreign markets in the allocation of both people and capital resources. I only wish I could take you with me to see for yourselves the potential which exists up North."

He emphasized the role of the City in developing young people's opportunities in business and highlighted the short-making business of Mr David Bell, who set up with help from the Prince's Youth Business Trust. Several City institutions are involved with the trust but he urged his audience to turn these "first steps" into a common trend.

"I want to stress that the City has an important role to play in supporting mechanisms which can enable young entrepreneurs in all types of circumstances to find a niche in the capital market."

"Whilst this is undoubtedly good for public relations, goodwill and getting yourself known outside the City, it is

surely in your long-term interest to demonstrate that the City can provide for all types of entrepreneurs and care about those who might otherwise be disadvantaged in their first step into business."

The Prince added that the key to resolving many of the worst inner city problems and sharing success with groups of young people lay with City firms creating good relations with neighbourhoods as part of their mainstream business policy.

"Communicating your role to the younger generation, from school-age onwards, ensuring that they can see the positive contribution of the City to the economy and their families, ensuring that they can share the fruits of a growing economy... is a major challenge to the City."

He listed initiatives which the City supported, such as Business in the Community, his own trust and Project Fulfillment, and urged his audience at the Stock Exchange to consider methods of creating a climate for employee involvement in their own communities and for offering business advice to new businesses and youth enterprise centres.

He said there were some able youngsters "lurking in the most unlikely places and just waiting to be given a chance", with one of their number a possible future captain of industry.

He suggested that talented City people most vulnerable to the phenomenon of "burn-out" should get involved in such new enterprises as an antidote to the intensity of their daily routine.

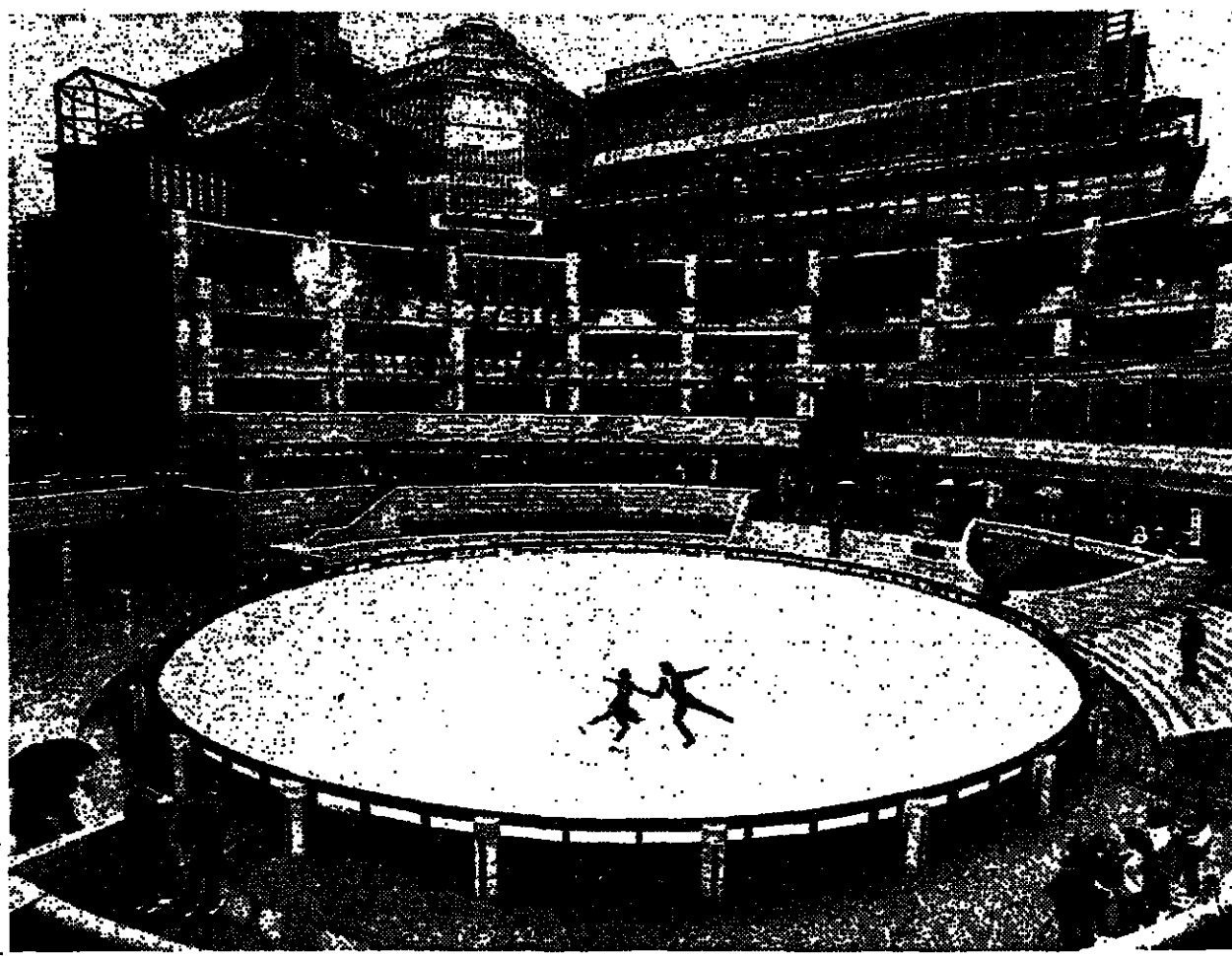
"We must all ask ourselves how long, particularly in times of the acute skill shortages which we are likely to be facing in the coming years, the City can continue to be successful unless it realizes that there are ways which it can involve more people in its abundant employment and enterprise opportunities."

"How can a major financial centre be secure and provide a good working environment with a rising tide of crime and resentment on its own doorstep, as youngsters leave or drop out of the school system into a world which appears to exclude them?"

The Prince said the City, in common with the heart of great financial centres such as New York and Chicago, demonstrated how business success could coexist "rather awkwardly" with severe inner-city deprivation. That would continue unless a deliberate attempt was made to share opportunities with young people from inner urban neighbourhoods.

The Prince told his audience: "We could walk together just 10 minutes from this very spot, indeed I have done this on several occasions with leading businessmen, and find to the South, the East and the North, right on our doorsteps, some pretty awful deprivation and social conditions."

"I would particularly ask all of you in the City seriously to analyse your investment policies and your relations with society to ensure that they are firmly in the long-term interests of your firms, the investing public and the country."



Jayne Torvill and Christopher Dean, the skaters, performing at the Broadgate rink yesterday (Photograph: Nick Rogers).

Theatre on ice unveiled in the City

By Charles Knevit

The first new square in the City of London for many years was opened yesterday as part of the Broadgate scheme near Liverpool Street station.

The Prince of Wales, who performed the ceremony by cutting a ribbon, refused to give his opinion of the square's architecture.

Two weeks ago at a dinner in the City the Prince singled out for harsh comments proposals to develop Paternoster Square, next to St Paul's Cathedral.

Mr Stuart Lipton, who devised the Paternoster Square brief, and Arup

Associates, the architects appointed as master planners, were also responsible for the Broadgate scheme.

At the dinner the Prince attacked developers and planners for doing a worse job than the Luftwaffe in wrecking the London skyline.

Yesterday, when he was asked his opinion of Broadgate Square, one of the centrepieces of the Broadgate development, the Prince replied: "No comment".

The new development includes the only outdoor ice-skating rink in Britain, which will be used as an amphitheatre during the summer months. The skating stars Torvill and Dean and Joanne Conway

performed on the ice as part of the opening ceremony.

Almost 1,500 guests, from pin-striped bankers and young stockbrokers to denim-jacketed contractors, braved light rain to watch. The Prince was introduced to heads of the project, including the developers and architects.

Mr Godfrey Bradman, chairman of the developers, Rosehaugh Stanhope Developments, would not discuss what the Prince said to him. Mr Lipton, the company's joint managing director, said: "I think he likes the squares and open spaces".

Police help sought before killings

Police were not on hand when a man known to have a shotgun killed a bailiff and a young woman and then shot himself dead, an inquest was told yesterday.

Mr David Cummings, a legal executive who survived the shootings, said he had written two letters to Wolverhampton County Court asking for police support.

When he went to serve a matrimonial eviction order at the gunman's house in Tyndale Crescent, Edinghall Park, Wolverhampton, there was no police support.

Mr Cummings's assistant, Louise Winspear, aged 22, and Dennis Hull, aged 61, a county court bailiff, were shot dead by Charles Whitehouse,

aged 57, an unemployed toolmaker.

Mr Cummings told Mr Keith Swayne, the Wolverhampton coroner, that he had written two letters to the county court bailiffs, warning them that Whitehouse had a shotgun and cartridges and might be dangerous even though he had agreed to the sale of the house as part of the conditions of his divorce.

On the morning of October 6 he arrived at the house with Miss Winspear and Mr Hull in two cars. He saw Mr Hull gain access to the door opened and Whitehouse stood there with a shotgun pointing at Mr Hull's lower chest.

Mr Hull was trying to calm

the man down and they went inside the house.

Mr Cummings saw the gun and told Miss Winspear to return to the car. He was in the middle of the road when he heard a shot.

"Whitehouse came out of the house very fast with the shotgun and over the lawn on to the road. He went to the car and shot Louise from point blank range. I had started to go back but I thought he was coming to shoot me."

Mr Cummings ran to a house near by to raise the alarm.

Mr Dennis Burdett, in charge of the bailiffs at Wolverhampton County Court, told the inquest he had

decided not to alert the police after receiving Mr Cummings's letters.

He said: "I formed the opinion that the police should not be involved. I had sent Mr Hull on a preliminary visit to the house and he told me when he returned 'not to worry, it would be all right'."

Det Chief Insp Tony Legg confirmed that no contact had been made with the police.

The coroner recorded verdicts of unlawful killing on Miss Winspear, of Wakeley Hill, Penn, Wolverhampton and Mr Hull, of Cherry Tree Lane, Bilbrook, Staffordshire. He recorded a verdict that Whitehouse had killed himself.

Mr Justice Owen said the script for the programme had not been revealed and therefore, having to decide on information deliberately limited by the BBC, he was bound to say the Attorney-General had a "good arguable claim for a permanent injunction."

Mr Birt said afterwards: "The issue in this case is not national security. The BBC has taken advice twice over from the secretary of the 'D' notice committee about My Country, Right or Wrong and we are confident therefore that no breach or national security occurs in the programme."

Law Report, page 31

Enterprising pair made funds work

By India Knight

A "young girl from Huddersfield" mentioned in the Prince of Wales's speech to the Stock Exchange was aged 21 when she applied for a £1,000 bursary from the Prince's Youth Business Trust in 1984. Three years later, she is a millionaire.

Miss Julie Taylor, now 24, was made redundant by an animal feed company in 1984, in spite of promises that her job was secure. Miss Taylor was "disappointed and very upset" and vowed that she would never work for anyone again.

Certain that her business idea, milk testing, was valid, she applied to various companies and got nowhere. In 1984, she applied to the trust and was given the bursary with which she set up the enterprise alone.

Three years later, Miss Taylor's turnover is more than £3 million. She has 12 employees and the companies which earlier rejected her are, now her clients.

"I would never have got into business without the

trust", Miss Taylor said yesterday.

She added: "I and my employees will be eternally indebted to the trust and to the Prince for their interest and support. Other companies thought that my idea was hare-brained but the trust actually bothered to find out about it and the market and really took an interest."

Also mentioned in the Prince's speech was Mr David Bell, aged 27, who, unemployed and with no security, did not have the £2,000 necessary to make his ideas work.

He borrowed the sum from the trust and started his business in 1984, supplying shirts embroidered with company logos and initials.

Mr Bell has been established for a year and his turnover is £25,000. Both Mr Bell and Miss Taylor have met the Prince of Wales and both said last night that they were particularly impressed with the "genuine interest" which the Prince took in his business protégés.



Miss Julie Taylor (above) and Mr David Bell.



Business drivers 'villains'

By Rodney Cowton

Transport Correspondent

The hard-working, upper-class, middle-aged businessmen who drives more than 100 miles a week on business emerges today as a villain of the road.

A Gallup poll on drinking and driving highlights two groups of "high risk" drivers, one dubbed "Dumbos" (Dangerous Upper-Class Middle-aged Businessmen Over the limit) and the other "Yobos" (Young Over the limit Beer drinkers).

The poll, carried out for General Accident, defines high risk drivers as those who admit driving after consuming excessive alcohol at least four times in the past 12 months.

Businessmen accounted for 28 per cent of "high risk" drivers, compared with 15 per cent in 1986. They and young beer drinkers make up the majority of high-risk drivers.

The survey says the incidence of driving after drinking is declining, with less than one in five motorists admitting driving over the limit this year compared with two out of five in 1986. Nearly two-thirds of drivers favour random breath tests.

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Professions divided on Aids law

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

Doctors and lawyers look set to clash over the desirability of laws making it a criminal offence to spread Aids.

The idea, being considered by the Home Office, was condemned yesterday by the British Medical Association, which said the implications were "enormous".

"This could deter people from coming for counselling and treatment and do nothing to help contain the spread of the virus", it said.

The association's view was that efforts should be concentrated on spreading the message that control of the virus was the responsibility of every individual. "It takes two

people [to spread the virus through sexual intercourse], and you cannot blame solely the carrier."

However, Professor Brian Hogan of Leeds University, an eminent law academic, said he could see no reason why it should not be made an offence for someone to infect another.

He cited two examples where prosecutions under such an offence might be appropriate: "There was a case of a prostitute in Bradford who knew she had the HIV virus and continued to ply her trade", he said. "Then there was a case of a carrier in Leeds who donated blood, which led to someone becoming infected."

● An Aids sufferer who robbed a post office in Wolverhampton was sentenced by Stafford Crown Court to seven years' jail yesterday.

Huw Rees, aged 29, of Parkdale, Wolverhampton, admitted robbing £3,000. He told police he wanted the money to buy heroin to kill himself.

Judge Allardice said the issue of Aids had nothing to do with the sentence imposed. "If you are to be treated differently from people in a normal state of health, it seems to me it is for the Home Office or Parliament to decide", he said.

Glowing reports from auction houses

The three main auction houses, Sotheby's, Christie's and Phillips, announced record turnovers for the closing autumn season yesterday in a series of self-congratulatory end-of-term reports.

But their figures make any comparison of their success somewhat invidious. Each has chosen different trading periods: Sotheby's from September to December; Christie's from August to December and Phillips from last December to this December.

Sotheby's has used the average pound-dollar exchange rate of 1.79 over the period, while Christie's have used 1.73. Another confusing factor is that their records undergo extraordinary distortions when translated from sterling into dollars, because of recent fall in the US currency.

Sotheby's reports world-

wide sales of \$609 million from September to December 1987; up 30 per cent on the same period last year. But in sterling the increase is a miserable 2.7 per cent.

Christie's international turnover figure is \$424.4 million, a 52 per cent increase in dollar terms. That gives a respectable 26 per cent increase in sterling, presumably because it used a different accounting period.

Sotheby's chief executive officer, Mr Michael Ainslie, said yesterday: "The strong results are all the more significant when viewed in the context of three main factors:

a previous autumn season when sales rose 74 per cent (77 per cent in sterling); fewer single owner collections than during the same period last year and the downturn in the world financial markets."

He described November as the "most successful month in auction history".

Mr Joe Floyd, Christie's group chairman, said the passing season was the most remarkable in the company's 221-year history. Despite the turmoil on stock exchanges, 36 works of art were sold for more than \$1 million, and 40 important record prices were established.

SALEROOM

By Sarah Jane Checkland

Art Market Correspondent

December 17 1987

PARLIAMENT

Poll tax will bring great harm to party, says Heath

The Government's proposals for a poll tax stood condemned, Mr Edward Heath, the former Prime Minister said in a strong attack on the Local Government Finance Bill.

He said that the tax would be immensely damaging to the Conservative Party. "This will be held against us."

Dr David Owen, former leader of the SDP, said that the poll tax was unfair, unaccountable and unworkable.

Mr Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Wales, said that the Bill provided even greater independence to Wales in local government finance and no resources would be lost as a result of the legislation. All receipts from the community charge would stay in Wales.

There would be a separate grant system based on assessments of needs fully discussed with local authorities, and all non-domestic rates would go into a separate Welsh pool to be distributed to Welsh local authorities.

"The benefits which Wales enjoys from having its own separate system and separate consultations will be carried over into these new arrangements."

Total local government expenditure per household in Wales would be £25 a year, that the Government would be putting up £24, the business sector would contribute £6, leaving only £5 to be found from the community charge.

There were no plans at present for operating the rating system for non-domestic properties in any way different from that already proposed, but the power would be there to make adjustments should the need arise.

The overall contribution made by businesses in Wales to local authority spending would not change and the move to a national poundage unified in line with inflation would be fair and give greater stability about future bills for businesses.

It was likely that industry

would gain in those areas most in need of economic regeneration.

The Committee of Wales District Councils had put to him some proposals for change in arriving at needs assessments, and he would be carrying out a full review in the coming months, in conjunction with the local authority associations, of the formulae now used for assessing needs.

Mr Donald Dewar, for the Opposition, said that the main change of the Opposition was that the tax was unfair.

However incomplete, there was a rough link between income and rate bills. The wealthy

Conservative MP: "Rubbish."

Mr Walker may not have done much to persuade the Welsh over the poll tax, but he certainly persuaded the British that if the Bill became law, the Welsh would get a much better deal out of it than they would (Labour laughter).

Every authority agreed that the poll tax proposals were far less workable than the rating system, that it was going to cost twice as much to operate and that the means necessary to work it fully would be abhorrent to most people. For that last reason alone, it stood condemned.

The statement that the proposed poll tax would increase accountability was inexcusable.

As far as businesses were concerned, accountability was removed entirely.

The former Secretary of State for the Environment, Mr Michael Heseltine, had recalled the origins of this great debate.

The Conservatives Party, in their autumn general election manifesto had said that within the normal lifetime of a parliament a Conservative Government would abolish the domestic rating system and replace it by taxes more broadly based and related to people's ability to pay (Labour cries of "Ah").

"That was our undertaking and it is the right undertaking for any Government as far as local taxation is concerned - people's ability to pay."

Any thought of a poll tax was abolished from the Cabinet and had been ever since, until this particular Bill.

He wanted liability to the poll tax to be removed from students, nurses and others in similar positions.

The Conservatives had always believed that taxation could be redistributed through the rates and property system, as well as through the income tax system.

"This is the question my own party has to answer. Are we going to change the philosophy of our policy over a century and the tenets of taxation for far longer and go to a situation in which we cannot use the local government system for redistribution?"

Mr Edward Heath (Old Bexley and Sidcup, C) said that the Secretary of State for the Environment (Mr Nicholas Ridley) had described the characteristics of the Bill as fairness, workability and, above all, accountability.

"I have seldom in this House heard three greater fallacies put forward with such little conviction (Labour cries of "Oh")."

"This Bill runs counter to all the long-accepted tenets of the principles of taxation."

There was criticism of Government policy from Conservative MPs. Mr Michael Heseltine, former Secretary of State for the Environment, said that he could not support the Bill because of the danger of ending with an even worse system than the present one.

Moving the second reading of the Bill, Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for the Environment, said that the average real annual increase in local authority spending was still too high.

Since 1979-80 local spending had increased by 18 per cent in real terms, but by much more in many areas run by Labour. That was an unacceptable burden.

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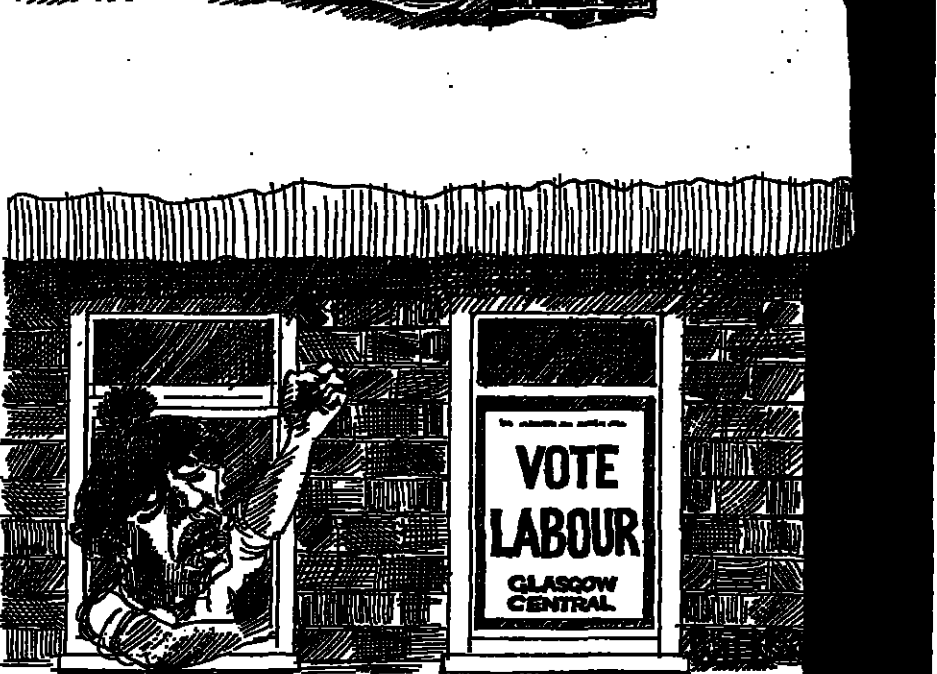
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Christmas wishes for all MPs

Seasonal wishes winged across the Chamber during the last Prime Minister's question time before Christmas.

Sir Bernard Braine (Castle Point, C) now that the season of good will is nigh, many of us, recalling his remarkable achievements in the past year in enhancing the international standing of our country - (cheers and laughter) - may I wish her a restful Christmas and a fabulous New Year? (Conservative cheers)

Mrs Thatcher: I heartily reciprocate his wishes and those of all people of good will in this House.

Mr Nicholas Fairclough (Purth and Kinnock, C) in this great period of the year, will she accept the thanks of the people of Scotland (Labour laughter) for what she has put in their Christmas stockings this year, with 40 per cent of the regional grants for one eleventh of the population and for spending £127 a head of the population there compared with £100 a head in England, and £85 a

head spent in Northern Ireland for the increase announced yesterday of £7,600,000 for our hospitals and health service, the vast increase in our budget in the past year and for taking the Scottish industrial wage from the bottom to the top of the wages league.

Mrs Thatcher: I could not have put it better myself. Scotland, I am sure, very pleased.

Mr Harry Cohen (Leys, Lab) had a different Christmas message. Mrs Thatcher's policies, he said, were far more successful in homelessness this Christmas, when bed-and-breakfast hotels will be full.

Is that her Government's contribution to the Christmas story: no room at the inn?

Mrs Thatcher: The number of homes is far greater now than it was at the beginning of our Government. There are far greater attempts to tackle homelessness and young people can benefit from our hostel initiative (Labour protests).

Local Government Finance Bill

Ridley rejects 'banded' community charge idea

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Mr Heseltine: Fierce attack on the Bill

The consequences of a flat-rate personal poll tax would be much greater than those of any finance Bill this century. The proposals envisaged the abandonment of the principle of fairness in personal taxation.

"This Bill is a last-ditch attempt to control local government expenditure even more comprehensively." The Government wanted to undermine local government and the quality and range of publicly financed services.

A poll tax unrelated to ability to pay meant abandoning any claim to be fair in taxation. The Government's own figures showed that 14.5 million people would gain from the poll tax and that 15.8 million would lose.

"We reject as contemptible the argument that people, regardless of income, must pay more taxes to make them more accountable in their local voting. It is a view which has no question the absolute right to vote." That argument was a sham.

How did the poll tax argument square with the Government's policy of taxing people into jobs? For young trainees and newly qualified young people in their first job would pay tax at exactly the same rate as the managing director earning 10 or 20 times as much.

The Bill also gave the Secretary of State retrospective powers to change any poll tax. That meant that after a council had decided its priorities, finalized its budget and won an election on that basis, it could find the minister using his retrospective powers to enforce changes.

Mr Michael Heseltine (Henley, C) said that he had drafted the Green Paper in 1981. He had started with some sympathy for the poll tax. But, by the time the consultation period was over, the idea of a poll tax had no friends.

It had been dismissed by the Cabinet with barely a backward glance. He could never remember a Cabinet discussion of the poll tax option without its being dismissed as expensive, ineffective and unfair.

He supported the Government's determination to do something about the housing crisis, but that could not mean making the poor pay more for the worst services in the land.

Of course the Government could point to extreme local authorities, but the consequences of this legislation would be felt in every constituency.

How would it tell voters in Tory authorities that the Government must protect the voters from the decisions of their local authority?

There were many grievances about the domestic rating system. But these were criticisms of a system they had not created. The most significant change that the poll tax produced was that they would be held totally responsible for it.

Responsibility for the rates was confused in the legacy of history, but responsibility for the poll tax would now be targeted precisely and unavoidably on the Government that introduced it. It would become known as a Tory tax (Labour cheers).

The Conservatives supported the collection of the family, but the poll tax would make it far easier for young people to evade the tax if they left home to seek more anonymous accommodation. The Conservatives urged families to look after their elderly parents, but the elderly relative would pay the poll tax at home and pay no poll tax in a local authority home. They would have created a granny tax.

The rigour of tax collection became more difficult as urban stress became more acute. The Inland Revenue could not cope now with the burgeoning black economy.

He had once been attracted by the argument of accountability, but no longer. These proposals were designed to bring down local-authority spending. Even before this second reading debate the Government had had to make concessions as more and more problems were revealed.

Mr Ridley must know that his proposals caused the most profound anxiety in the Conservative Party.

The debate was adjourned.

COMMENTARY

is personally highly popular, but in its present mood the House needs a firm hand.

That is partly because of a progressive decline in parliamentary behaviour over the years. It is also because there is an exceptional degree of boredom and frustration in a House where one party has a very large majority.

But if the present level of disorder continues there will be one certain consequence and one possible one. It is certain that public respect for Parliament would continue to diminish. Most people in this country just do not see how a legislative body can do its work properly in such an apparently frivolous manner.

This has always been one of the most favoured arguments for televising the House of Commons. If the public could see how their representatives were behaving, in particular if they could see which particular MPs were misbehaving, then members would realize that their personal reputations would suffer if they were disruptive.

But now an increasing number of Conservative MPs seem to be taking the cameras seriously. They fear, simply encourage the exhibitionists. In that case, television would make the behaviour worse and expose it more.

This does not mean that the televising of the House of Commons is now bound to be rejected when it comes up again early in the new year. On the Labour side some older, more traditional MPs, who opposed televising, have been replaced by younger supporters of the idea.

But there will be more resistance than seemed likely when this Parliament first assembled last summer. It will be ironic if televising is now rejected not because MPs mistrust the cameras but because they mistrust the House.

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Beit bequest includes four paintings still missing 18 months after they were stolen

Irish gallery gains £100m collection of Old Masters



(Left to right) Vermeer's "Lady Writing a Letter" and Goya's "Doña Antonia Zarate", both stolen last year, detail from Murillo's "The Return of the Prodigal Son" and Hals's "The Late Player".

By Sarah Jane Checkland
Art Market Correspondent

A collection of Old Master paintings worth up to £100 million, including four still missing after being stolen last year, has been given to the National Gallery of Ireland.

The collection, comprising 17 paintings by many of the greatest names in art, were presented to a charitable trust to be exhibited in perpetuity by Sir Alfred and Lady Beit, of Russborough, Co Wicklow.

Mr Horan Potterton, director of the gallery, said: "To receive such paintings is an unimaginable dream." He said the bequest, which went on show in Dublin yesterday, was one of the "most magnificent ever received by any museum anywhere".

The works include Velazquez's

"Kitchen Maid with the Supper at Emmaus", Jacob van Ruysdael's "The Castle at Bentheim", Frans Hals's "The Late Player", Gainsborough's "The Cottage Girl", and a series of six paintings of the Prodigal Son by Murillo.

The stolen paintings include Vermeer's "The Letter Writer", the only painting by the artist owned privately apart from one belonging to the Queen, and Goya's famous portrait of the sultry Doña Antonia Zarate, wearing a black mantilla.

Seventeen paintings were stolen in their frames from the library, music room and salon of the Beit home in May last year in what was described as a "professional manner". Six were recovered immediately four miles away by three boys on a fishing trip. The rest, including the four destined

for the national gallery, are missing.

The core of the Beit collection was formed at the turn of the century by Alfred Beit, who was born in Hamburg in 1853 and went to South Africa where in 1888 he joined forces with Cecil Rhodes to form the De Beers

Diamond Mining Company. After making his fortune, he moved to a house he had built in Park Lane, London, in the 1890s and settled to collecting paintings. In that he was advised by his friend, Wilhelm Bode, director of the Berlin Museum.

After Alfred Beit's death in 1906

the collection passed to his brother, Otto, who shed some works through various bequests. In 1930 the balance passed to his son, Sir Alfred, who moved with his wife and the collection to Co Wicklow in 1953.

The balance of the Beit collection, which includes lesser paintings, porcelain and bronzes, has been presented to the Alfred Beit Foundation, to remain on display at Russborough, which is open to the public.

Sir Alfred, aged 84, who has no heirs, served as Unionist MP for St Pancras South-East from 1931 to 1945. He has for a long period been on the board of the National Gallery of Ireland. He left this week for his second home at Gordons Bay, near Cape Town, South Africa.

Mr Potterton, who announced his resignation last weekend

because of what was understood to be his frustration with the museum board, said: "I first discussed the matter with the Beits five years ago and they willingly took up the idea. I must say, it is a nice bang to leave with."

● The Arts Council would guard against potential dangers inherent in establishing incentive funding. Mr Luke Rittner, the secretary general, said yesterday (Lynda Murdin writes).

Mr Richard Luce, Minister for the Arts, announced on November 5 that £5.75 million would be provided from next April for incentive arts funding and additional touring, rising by £1 million a year to £7.75 million in 1990-91.

"We will do our level best to ensure that arts organizations get the best possible advice and that nobody is taken for a ride. I am

particularly concerned that these new funds are not in any sense used to line the pockets of anyone", Mr Rittner said.

He was speaking after a series of seminars held with administrators to discuss how best to employ the incentive funds.

The aim is to help organizations increase earnings from the private sector through improved management and marketing. Mr Rittner said that although there had been "a fairly positive welcome" for the scheme, the Arts Council was reconsidering its initial proposal to divide the money between an enterprise fund for big organizations and a progress fund for smaller ones.

"This still doesn't help the very small organizations and there are arguments for having a three-tier scheme", he said.



Sir Alfred and Lady Beit at the National Gallery of Ireland.

Ferry captain's appeal lost for doors 'folly'

By Michael Horsnell

Captain David Lewry, master of the ferry Herald of Free Enterprise which capsized off Zeebrugge with the loss of 188 lives, yesterday lost his legal battle to be allowed to take another ship to sea.

Two High Court judges dismissed his appeal against the findings of the Zeebrugge disaster inquiry which found him guilty of serious negligence and stripped him of his master's certificate of competency for one year.

In their judgement they said his failure to check that the bow doors of his ship were closed before putting to sea was "folly" and that it was his responsibility to do so.

Captain Lewry, aged 47, was not in court nor available for comment afterwards but legal sources made it clear he is unlikely to command another ship.

Discussions between him and his employers, P&O European Ferries, which were adjourned pending his legal appeal, are to be resumed. It is believed that Captain Lewry, who has been on full pay since the disaster last March, will leave the company.

Meanwhile, the Director of Public Prosecutions is awaiting a report from the Kent police before deciding whether to bring charges against him and two other men, chief officer Leslie Sabel and assistant boatswain Marc Stanley who have taken "medical

severance" and left the company.

Mr Stanley, whose duty it was to close the doors when the vessel sailed, was asleep in his cabin and Mr Sabel did not follow the normal practice of checking he had done the job but went to the bridge and made no report to the captain.

The merchant officers' union, Numast, which had backed Captain Lewry's appeal, said that a further appeal was being considered.

Mr Andrew Limington, a union spokesman, said: "We think it is totally unjust for one person to be picked out for punishment when the system being operated had been approved by the Transport Department and the management."

"There was no reason for Captain Lewry to suppose that the company's instructions were lacking in scope or efficiency."

Mr Justice Hirst, sitting with Mr Justice Phillips, ruled that there was no doubt that Mr Justice Sheen, the wreck commissioner who presided over the disaster inquiry in July, was correct in finding Captain Lewry guilty of serious negligence.

Closure of the bow doors before sailing was "perhaps the single most vital step" necessary to ensure the ship was secure and there was "no justification" for the captain relying on others to check this had been done.

The requirement to make a positive check that the doors were closed was "so obvious that it was folly to ignore it", the judge said, rejecting the captain's claim that he was not personally responsible for setting sail with the bow doors open.

Mr Justice Hirst said the captain's failure to insist on a positive reporting system to ensure the doors were closed was "not an isolated failure but a failure to maintain a proper system."

While Captain Lewry's system was the same as that adopted by his fellow captains, the standard "fell below the standard of the reasonably prudent cross-Channel ferry master."

"The negligence was serious not because he showed any flagrant disregard of his duties, but because the risk that it created, while not high in the order of probability, was a risk of a catastrophe, and catastrophe was precisely what occurred", the judge said.

The judge added: "We share the sympathy the inquiry felt for the personal ordeal that Captain Lewry has plainly suffered as a consequence of this disaster."

Miss Belinda Bucknall, Captain Lewry's counsel, told the judges that the suspension of his certificate would ruin him. He would be unable to work again with a "tarnished" certificate.

New jails to be more air secure

By Peter Evans
Home Affairs Correspondent

A new type of prison designed to prevent escape by helicopter will be on the drawing board soon.

Lessons of the Garret get-away in Leicestershire are to be incorporated by a team announced yesterday by Lord Calthorpe, the Minister of State in the Home Office, to speed up jail construction.

"We want to build secure prisons that protect the public", Lord Calthorpe said. He said a report on Garret was awaited from Mr Gordon Lakes, the deputy director general of the Prison Service.

A team of experts, experienced in prison building, would examine current design briefs - statements of intent and needs to guide architects - used by the Prison Service. "They have been asked to produce a new design brief by next October", Lord Calthorpe said.

● The niece of one of the Garret Prison escapees is expected to be interviewed by police "as a matter of routine".

Her uncle, Sydney Draper, aged 39, was serving a minimum of 25 years for his part in a murder.

● A decision to put 40 prisoners serving life sentences in Highpoint Prison, Suffolk, was denounced yesterday by Mr John Long, mayor of Bury St Edmunds near by.

"There have been three breakouts here in the last week."

● Dartmouth prison officers have passed another vote of no confidence in Mr John May, the governor.

The Prison Officers' Association is calling for the governor to be replaced. The action concerns staffing problems.

British Psychological Society Screening out child abusers

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

A psychological screening test that could identify potential child abusers has been proposed to the Department of Health and Social Security.

The test is the result of a feasibility study commissioned by the Government after the Kinross home scandal in Northern Ireland, where boys in care were subjected to abuse.

The recommendations are contained in a report from a team working with Dr Peter Henderson, of the psychology department at Queen's University, Belfast.

The first details of the method of "screening of staff to reduce the risk of institutional child abuse" were outlined yesterday by a member of the research group, Miss Jacqueline Granleese, to a meeting in London of the British Psychological Society.

Miss Granleese described institutional child abuse as a hidden problem. She said she was more confident of devising a personality test that indicated the risk of physical abuse than for the risk of sexual abuse. The Queen's study relies heavily on the findings of research into abuse in families.

Scientists to seek addiction cure

By Robert Matthews, Technology Correspondent

British scientists are organizing an expedition to Sumatra to find a plant that a Victorian engineer claimed could cure the effects of drug and alcohol addiction.

The engineer, who worked on the construction of a railway in the area in the 1890s, paid Chinese and Malay labourers with money and opium.

According to one of the expedition organizers, Mr

James Gilman, of New College, Durham, the engineer was also responsible for the workers' health and experimented with a plant brought by Malay workers.

"He extracted an active substance, mixed it with water and gave it to people. Within 15 to 20 minutes, the effects of opium had worn off without any after-effects or withdrawal symptoms. It made them sober", Mr Gilman said.

Returning to England, the engineer continued his experiments, finding that the plant could combat the effects of a wide variety of drugs, including wine, absinthe and cocaine. However, he left no mention of the plant's name.

The British expedition, to be launched next year, is backed by the Conservation Foundation. Indonesian students and scientists will also be involved.

Taxi drivers picking up phobias

More than a third of London taxi drivers have serious phobias and 16 per cent suffer from anxiety, according to a leading psychologist.

The evidence that taxi drivers are at greater risk of stress-related illnesses than most people will be presented today by Dr Ben Fletcher.

In a study of more than 1,300 taxi drivers, Dr Fletcher, of Hatfield Polytechnic, has found that one in four is obsessive. He describes the levels of psychological illness as high.

The drivers attribute the main causes of their stress to the amount of traffic, keeping the vehicle clean and in good working order, and long, unsocial hours.

In a separate study, Dr Fletcher examined the link between occupational stress, marriage and patterns of disease.

He concludes that married women are at risk from the stresses of their husband's job. Statistics show that many women die of the diseases which go with their spouses'

work. The men somehow pass on their job stresses at home.

Dr Fletcher examined the cause of death of more than 350,000 people in more than 500 types of job.

He says certain jobs lay people open to particular stress-related illnesses: musicians have a higher degree of respiratory diseases than cancer, whereas for judges, barristers and solicitors it is the other way around.

It transpires that wives are as vulnerable as their husbands to the illness.

Liverpool gets £26m facelift

By Ian Smith

Britain's first world ice skating championship rink is being built as part of a £26 million waterfront development project in Liverpool.

Supported by the Sports Council and financed by the Government and private investment, the £26 million ice arena will seat 10,000 spectators and is expected to become a regular venue for international competitions.

Other waterfront plans announced yesterday include a futuristic film theatre, a specialty shopping precinct, three-storey hotel and multi-screen cinema. The development is expected to attract an annual 10 million visitors to the city.

"This is the best Christmas present ever for the people of Liverpool", Mr Donald Foster, the chairman of Merseyside Development Corporation, said.

"What we are unveiling today is not a pipe dream. It is a dynamic, exciting reality which will provide a spectacular leisure playground, the envy of Europe."

Clergy 'face witch-hunt'

The Bishop of Chichester, the Rt Rev Eric Kemp, says there is a witch-hunt against allegedly homosexual clergymen.

He says in his diocesan newsletter that he has received anonymous letters since taking part in a General Synod debate on homosexuality when he denounced press allegations against a clergyman.

Damages for photographer

Lyn Banks, the fashion photographer, was awarded libel damages in the High Court yesterday against Mirror Group Newspapers and British Newspaper Printing Corporation (London), publishers and printers of an article in the People involving sexual allegations.

Libel case won again by Tebbit

Mr Norman Tebbit, the former Conservative Party chairman, won libel damages for the second time in two days in the High Court yesterday after it was wrongly claimed that he said: "Nobody with a conscience votes Conservative."

On Wednesday Mr Geoffrey Robinson, Labour MP for Coventry North West, and the BBC agreed to pay an undisclosed sum to a charity of Mr Tebbit's choice after repeating the allegation which appeared in *The Guardian*.

Yesterday Mr Lawrence Knight, president of the National Union of Mineworkers in Kent, also agreed to pay a sum to charity "as a mark of regret" for repeating the same allegation on *Invicta Radio*.

Fresh salmon offers best buy for festive season

The Christmas spirit has hit Billingsgate, which is buzzing with activity as quantities of delicious smoked and fresh fish are selling well. Surprisingly, the market's recommended best buy is fresh Scottish and Norwegian salmon of superb quality.

Expect to pay about £2.20 a lb for a 3-5lb fish and £3.75 a lb for a 5-7lb fish. An alternative but also excellent party fare could be the red-fleshed trout, commonly known as Salmon Trout, which is cheaper at between £2.20 and £2.50 a lb.

For those who love Dover Sole but find it expensive there is the Sand Sole, similar in taste and texture at an affordable £2.95 a lb.

Excellent quality smoked fish are plentiful, with smoked salmon at the top end of the market between £1.12 a lb. For a special occasion there are small smoked 6oz-8oz trout about £1.20 each.

Good supplies of freshwater fish

include perch at £2.10 a lb, pike at £1.75, mirror carp £1.70 and trout £1.80. Appropriate to the season are St Peter's fish from Israel at about £2.10.

Venus and Almonds clams are about £1.50 a lb, and large hard-backed Colchester clams are about 30p each. Haddock is probably the national best buy, down 2p a lb to an average £2.05.

Shops and supermarkets are laden with frozen turkeys from 54p-56p a lb for standard or ready-basted but if you are looking for fresh birds, there is a wider price range. A butcher in west London has them for £1.25 a lb for hens and £1.18 for cocks. Another butcher has them at £1.35 and £1.25, and Harrods is selling 9-24lb birds within the £14.66 to £36.71 range.

Asda, the supermarket, has them at 96p a lb. However, if shoppers want to take a chance on a possible supermarket price war on Monday, those

prices could be reduced before Christmas.

Butchers throughout the country have disclosed that many people are opting for a festive crown roast of pork or a majestic rib roast of beef for Christmas. Rib of beef costs between £1.22 and £1.86 a lb and a crown roast of pork £1.40 to £1.70.

The choice of traditional Christmas hams includes York, a mild-tasting cure based on dry-salting and light smoking at about £2.80 a lb. The Bradenham ham is cured in molasses and is recognizable by its sweet taste and black rind; it costs about £3 a lb.

At the same price, the Cumberland ham is dry-salted, with the addition of sugar. If you prefer to cook your own expect to pay about £2 a lb for a green or smoked ham.

It is not surprising that cranberries are the pick of the week fruit, according to the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Information Bureau. Cran-

berries were discovered in the United States and were presented as gifts to the early settlers by the native Red Indians.

They are sometimes called bounce-berries because that is what they do when ripe: they have to pass a four-inch bounce test before being accepted for packing, and without the aid of Christmas spirit. They make very good open tarts and deliciously refreshing soufflés, as well as being an essential accompaniment for turkey. They cost 80p-£1 for ½ lb or £1-£1.10 for a ¾ lb pack.

This month we will spend £278 million on fresh fruit and vegetables. Of that, £23 million will be spent on exotic fruits such as mangoes and pineapples (from 50p-£2 each), kiwi fruit (18p-30p), guavas (6p-80p) paw-paws (£1-£1.50), mango tarts (£2-£2.50) and celeriac (65p-85p a lb).

There will also be some out of season apricots at about £1-£1.20 a lb.

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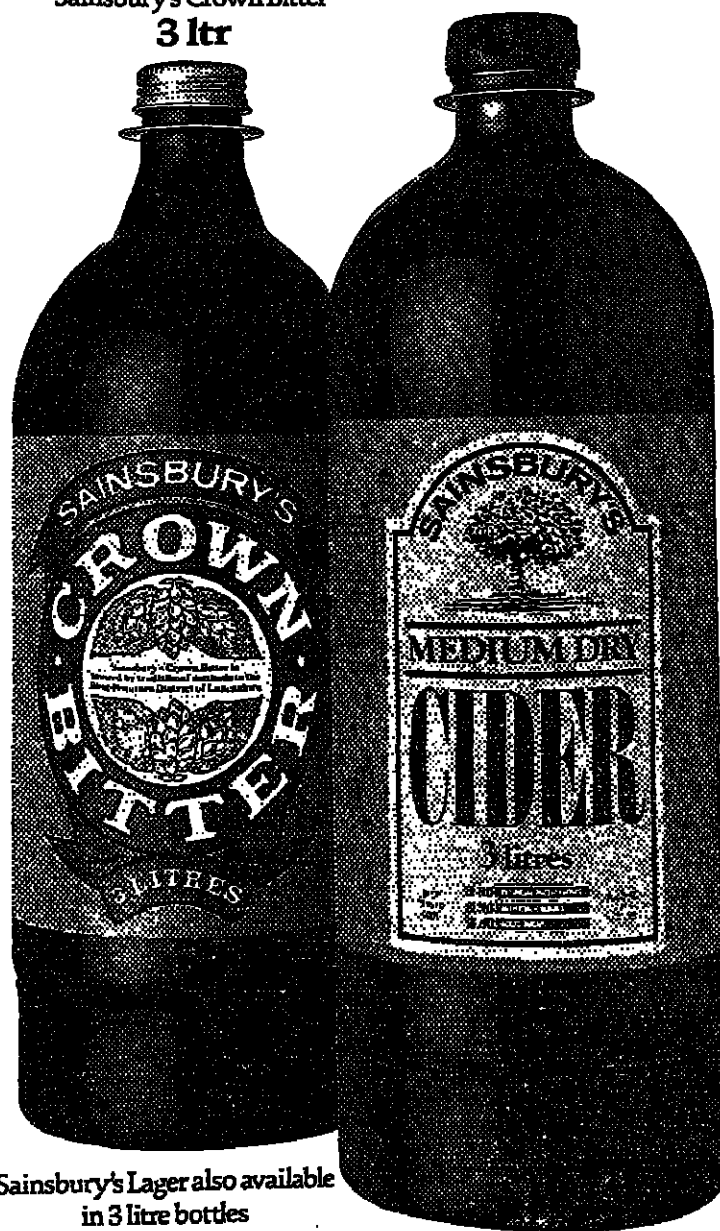


£1.15
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McEwan's Export
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£1.15
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4 x 440ml



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Heineken 4 x 440ml



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Sainsbury's Medium Dry Cider 4 x 440ml	£1.55
Sainsbury's Lager 3 ltr	£1.94
Sainsbury's Australian Lager 4 x 375ml	£1.95
Strongbow 2 ltr	£1.95
Sainsbury's German Lager 4 x 330ml	£1.99
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WORLD ROUNDUP

Warship watches attack on vessel

Dubai (Reuters) — One of the largest US warships in the Gulf stood by yesterday as Iranian gunboats raked a merchant ship with cannon fire after having set it ablaze in an attack earlier in the day, according to shipping sources. The 8,140-ton destroyer Chandler was prevented from protecting the burning craft by the Pentagon's rules of engagement, because it did not fly the American flag.

The Chandler yesterday stood by near the 9,714-tonne Maldives-registered Island Transporter, which had been set alight by Iranian Revolutionary Guards firing rocket grenades. The guards returned several hours later to raze the vessel with cannon fire.

They also fired at a helicopter carrying a camera crew and an American television correspondent, but missed it. There were no casualties in the attacks.

Paper gets Reform ban threat package

Johannesburg — The Minister of Home Affairs, Mr. Stofile, yesterday threatened one of South Africa's most outspoken liberal newspapers, *The Weekly Mail*, with closure for up to three months for printing "subversive" articles (Michael Hornsby writes).

Another newspaper, the weekly *New Nation*, received a similar warning two months ago. A warned paper can avoid suspension only if it agrees not to carry offending articles, or agrees to submit every issue to scrutiny by government censors.

Kenyan border quiet

Nairobi — A nervous silence descended yesterday along the 12-mile stretch of the border between Kenya and Uganda where for the previous three days fierce exchanges of fire had killed four people and caused thousands to flee (Paul Valley writes). Yesterday diplomats and political observers in the Kenyan capital were trying to uncover the cause of the worst clash between the two countries for many years.

They all agreed that, whatever the reason, "the tinder was very dry" after a war of words which has for the past year marked a serious deterioration in relations between the two Commonwealth neighbours.

Gibraltar Fiji pays air doubt for coups

Gibraltar — The Rock will wait until it has legally tested its exclusion from the EEC's cheap air fares package, and seen the impact of this accord on the rest of Europe, before it makes a decision on joint use of its airfield with Spain, a major vote of the House of Assembly decided yesterday (Dominique Searle writes).

Mr. Adolfo Canepa, the Chief Minister, said that the case would go to the European Court if necessary. Spain insisted that the Rock would be excluded from the pact unless it agreed to joint use of its runway.

Anger over sentence

Athens — A Greek policeman who killed a young British woman with the same gunshot that wounded her American fiancé during an argument over a speeding offence has been sentenced by an Athens court to eight months imprisonment for "accidental manslaughter" (Mario Modiano writes).

It is understood that the British Embassy is to raise the issue of this "outrageous verdict" with the Greek Ministry of Justice. An embassy source said that the verdict was in sharp contrast with the life sentence passed on a Briton for killing a Greek man during a brawl.

Dole's full backing for INF Treaty angers Bush camp

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

Senator Robert Dole, the Republican leader of the Senate, yesterday announced his full support for the superpower accord on eliminating medium-range missiles, a move that will align him with Vice-President George Bush as the only Republican presidential contender who wholeheartedly back the agreement.

The senator telephoned Mrs. Thatcher and Chancellor Kohl of West Germany on Wednesday to inform them of his new position. Then he went to the White House to tell President Reagan the good news, and asked the President to pose alongside him as he made the announcement to the press.

Mr. Bush and his senior campaign managers were infuriated at the manoeuvre since the appearance of Senator Dole and Mr. Reagan together could give the impression of a public blessing. President Reagan, despite frequently describing Mr. Bush as the best Vice-President in history, does not intend to endorse formally any contender.

The President felt obliged to stand alongside Mr. Dole because the senator's support for the INF Treaty will be so critically important in the Senate ratification process, which begins next month.

Mr. Dole's campaign managers have been dismayed by the progress Mr. Bush has made in strategic areas of the country with his consistent support for the pact, which has proved to be immensely popular in public opinion polls. The senator will now launch a publicity blitz in the critically important state of Iowa in an attempt to catch up.

Mr. Bush began beaming highly expensive commercials around the country immediately after the agreement was signed last week by President Reagan and Mr. Mikhail Gorbachev, the Soviet leader. He appears to have surged in popularity in Iowa, a state Mr. Dole desperately needs to win if he is to dislodge Mr. Bush from the front-runner position.

One of Mr. Bush's highly effective commercials says: "There's only been one Republican candidate for President to take the lead in support of the Soviet-American summit and the INF Treaty." It closes with a picture of Mr. Bush and Mr. Gorbachev shaking hands. Another advertisement begins: "Leadership requires decisions."

Before the summit, this imbalance prompted a number of letters to the Soviet press questioning the possible effect on Soviet defences.

A separate article in yesterday's *Pravda*, occupying most of the back page, attempted to reassure the public.

Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, and the Soviet Ambassador to London, Mr. Leonid Zamyatin, are to exchange notes on Monday (Andrew McEwen writes). They will set out the agreement to permit Soviet inspection teams to enter the Greenham Common and Molesworth cruise missile bases.

that the military establishment was fully behind the INF Treaty and had played a direct role in formulating the "new thinking" that had brought it about.

Written from the base of an unidentified missile unit due to be disbanded under the treaty, the article was accompanied by a striking photograph, four columns wide, of an SS20 missile, believed to be the first of its kind ever

published in the Moscow press.

It would be naive to think that the painful and massive task that disarmament presents could be carried out without the participation of the military against their will, and without their ideas and knowledge," the article said.

The armed forces of the Soviet Union had created the country's nuclear shield, it said.

It went on: "And now they are helping the political leadership dismantle this machine. Only an unintelligent or prejudiced person would accuse our military of militaristic thinking. Their thinking is truly defensive. And their contribution to the Washington treaty has been no less than that of the politicians, the scientists, the writers, the futurologists."

GENEVA: "Very real progress" towards a treaty banning chemical weapons has been registered during three weeks of closed-door discussions among delegates to the 40-nation disarmament conference in Geneva, according to a senior Western delegate (Alan McGregor writes).

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Vice-President Bush has launched a particularly intense publicity drive in Iowa, which holds the first caucus battle of the 1988 presidential campaign on February 8.

Opinion polls show that Senator Dole has suffered badly because he has refused to take a public position on the INF agreement. Clearly he has been waiting to see how the accord was received by public opinion. Before the Reagan-Gorbachev summit he had a sizeable lead over Mr. Bush in Iowa, but his indecision may now have knocked him into second place.

His endorsement of the treaty will cost him support from conservative Republicans. Indeed, some of his right-wing aides are believed to be ready to leave the senator's campaign in protest. A senior Bush aide remarked that Mr. Dole was now fighting to save himself in the Iowa battle.

All seven Democratic presidential contenders support the INF agreement. The reservations of most of the Republican contenders reflect the importance of the conservative vote in primary and caucus states. But they, too, may now find it necessary to soften their position.

The result suggested, among other things, that Mr. Hart may be right in thinking he will benefit from public sympathy over his humiliation at the media's hands during the Doona Rice fiasco last May.

Though few political experts are taking his second try seriously, the poll also showed that 60 per cent of Democrats do not believe marital infidelity was cause for withholding support from a candidate.

But disapproval was strongest among university-educated voters, and Mr. Hart's support was a third down from before his fall.

While pushing his new campaign — the slogan is "invest, reform, engage" — Mr. Hart has refused to discuss his affair with Miss Rice, the Miami model, and the reputation for philandering that brought down his campaign.

Like a Soviet official referring to the "events of 1968", Mr. Hart now dismisses his debacle as "the events of last May".

His wife Lee, who is seen variously as the most put-upon political wife in America or as a courageous helpmate, fielded one of the questions on Miss Rice in New Hampshire.

"We don't just share the good. We share the bad," she said. "I can tell you as well as no single individual, no group of individuals, will ever hurt or cause such pain to this family again."

In the poll, the Rev. Jesse Jackson, the other candidate judged unelectable by the experts, came in a close second at 17 per cent, while none of the five other candidates scored higher than 9 per cent.

The poll, by the *New York Times* and CBS, was fresh evidence that none of the "six-pack" of Democratic contend-

ers had succeeded in breaking the image of unconvincing lightweight.

Mr. Hart, greeted like the Ghost of Christmas Past by the other candidates, says that an important reason for his return was the failure of any politician of stature to enter the race: "I am more capable and more qualified than them in a number of ways."

For the first time one of the trailing candidates, Mr. Bruce Babbitt, the former Arizona governor, nominated by Mr. Hart, accused him of arrogance. He rejected angrily Mr. Hart's claim that he stepped in again because none of the others was dealing with the main issues.

After two days of ridicule and amazement over the re-appearance of "Gary (Stop Me Before I Sin Again) Hart" as the *Chicago Tribune* called him, the editorial pages have been finding a positive side.

Tom Wicker, *The New York Times* columnist, said that Mr. Hart's re-entry "dramatises the inability of any of the other Democratic candidates to break out of the six-pack" and opened the field for somebody else.

"Even if that opportunity proves not to be for Mr. Hart, the putative weakness of the other candidates will have been confirmed if he can defeat or run on equal terms with them... that could push some other late starter into the race."

Two prominent political polling experts also said yesterday that Mr. Hart had received the best publicity in his life and that he was well placed to focus attention on issues such as the budget and trade deficit.

So far, despite his insistence on the issues, Mr. Hart has shown a preference for his old visionary language.

Democrats in a dither

Poll puts 'born-again' Hart back in the lead

From Charles Bremner, Sioux Falls, South Dakota

The "born-again" Mr. Gary Hart brought his Mk 2 presidential campaign to South Dakota yesterday emboldened by opinion polls that show him leading the field of Democratic contenders.

Three days after he astonished the political world with his decision to re-enter the fray and "let the people judge", Mr. Hart was returning to South Dakota, the scene of one of his 1984 primary election triumphs, to indulge in "a little retail politicking".

The handful of aides now working for the former senator said that his trip to the snow-swept middle of America was a symbol of his determination to fight for support in all 50 states, not just New Hampshire, where he relunched his campaign on Tuesday.

While Republican candidates gloated at the Democrats' embarrassment and television comedians greeted the Hart resurrection as a happy windfall, an opinion poll showed yesterday that 21 per cent of Democratic primary voters would choose Mr. Hart.

The result suggested, among other things, that Mr. Hart may be right in thinking he will benefit from public sympathy over his humiliation at the media's hands during the Doona Rice fiasco last May.

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Mr. Gary Hart waving the same old confident victory sign after re-entering the Democratic presidential campaign.

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Hardliner succeeds Husak

Czechoslovak leader happy to play the Moscow tune

By Alexander Johnson

The announcement yesterday of the appointment of Mr. Milos Jakes to succeed Dr. Gustav Husak as leader of the Czechoslovak Communist Party could signal a change of direction in the Czechoslovak leadership, if only because the new leader has always shown himself to be firmly in tune with Moscow.

Mr. Jakes, aged 65, was born in the Ceske Chudup region of Czechoslovakia and began as an electrical technician in a shoe factory. In 1955 he went to Moscow to study for three years at the Party College of the Central Committee. On his return he immediately became chairman of the praedium of the youth union, embarking on a career of steady — and some would say opportunistic — progress up the hierarchy of the Communist Party.

He has been recognized as a hardliner since the demise of the "Prague Spring" in 1968, when the reforms of Mr. Alexander Dubcek were crushed by a Soviet-led Warsaw Pact invasion.

In the four or five days after the invasion, while the newspapers remained free, he was one of those singled out by the Czechoslovak media for harsh criticism as a collaborator.

Shortly after the invasion he visited Moscow to "study the experience of the Russians in these matters", and experts believe that he returned with explicit instructions to take a firmer line with dissidents in Czechoslovakia.

In 1969 he was responsible for setting up 2,000 local commissions throughout the country which he said were to "wage a decisive struggle for the implementation of party policy" in an avowed effort to impose rigid ideological conformity on Czechoslovak society.

His most important post-

come under the same pressure as other inertia-prone members of the Prague Government to embark on the same sort of economic reforms that are currently being advocated by Moscow.

While not exactly in the Gorbachev mould as an economic reformer, he has in recent speeches shown signs of following the Moscow line, calling for independent status for some enterprises.

BRASOV: A veteran member of the Romanian Communist Party has told Western diplomats that he is under virtual house

Pub signs purged in Algarve

From Martha de la Cal, Lisbon

British restaurant and pub owners in Portugal's Algarve holiday area have come under attack in an official move to enforce regulations banning the exclusive use of foreign languages in advertising in Portugal.

Since the enforcement campaign began this week in the Algarve area, dozens of signs advertising British pubs, restaurants and guesthouses such as fish, chips and burgers, have been taken down by local firemen acting under orders from the civil governor.

An official statement from the Civil Governor's office said that illegal signs had been carefully removed or painted over in the districts of Almonacid, Vilamoura, Vale de Lobo, and Quinta do Lago.

It said that the campaign would continue in other Algarve areas and that the action was being taken to enforce the law and in defence of Portuguese language and culture.

Many British and other foreign business owners were caught unprepared.

The proprietors of a take-away food store in the town of Almonacid, Mr. and Mrs. Graham Story, had several signs forcibly removed and damaged with a crowbar. "We received no written notice," said Mrs. Story, who has been in business in the Algarve for 14 years.

Many Algarve areas have been swamped by low-cost charter holidaymakers and local Portuguese are beginning to grumble about British arrogance.

One Portuguese restaurant owner said: "There have been some ugly incidents here in recent years — a sort of growing racism. The Portuguese are a humble people. But we find humility is being mistaken for stupidity and it often boils down to the phrase 'These bloody Portuguese'."

Electricity cuts which used to hit a different part of town every night, have stopped. There is a little more food in the shops, locals say.

Sicilian Mafia licks its wounds

From Roger Boyes, Palermo

Mafia chiefs in Sicily are expected to meet within the week to try and prevent a blood-bath on the streets of Palermo, as rival groups fight for position and vendettas are launched against possible informers.

The point was driven home early on Thursday morning, only hours after the sentencing of hundreds of Mafia figures, when 35-year-old Antonio Ciulla was gunned down in the street shortly after his acquittal. Ciulla was not a major Mafia figure but was one of four brothers who had gained a measure of independence in the heroin business.

The Mafia ranks are now being swollen by returning foot soldiers, the *Picciotti*: there were over 100 acquittals and others have served their sentences while awaiting trial. But their places have already been taken by a younger generation who are less firmly committed to the old family heads.

The Mafia clan leaders must decide what to do. Tight discipline and the re-assertion of the code of silence is imperative, especially as other

Male fashions are more in the line of bullet-proof vests, sunglasses and trousers with bulges at the hip. Machine-guns are an optional accessory. Trying to meet Judge Giovanni Falcone, the main Mafia investigator, you are in for a long wait surrounded by armed young men in downy, blue, bullet-proof vests.

"Don't worry," says the youngest and least bored, you will hear him coming. Sirens announce the advent of Signor Falcone's armoured platoon and the accompanying convoy.

Signor Falcone, bearded, aged 49, always on the move

(once, when he wanted to go to the cinema, his guards cleaned out three rows in front, three rows behind, put a gun on the projectionist and patrolled the aisles alongside the ice-cream lady: he has not been back since) has guided the Mafia "maxi trial" to its close. He helped to turn Tommaso Buscetta, the senior *mafioso* on whose evidence most of the cases were based. He tracked down Michele Greco, the "Pope of Crime".

Signor Falcone and the police regard the verdicts — 19 life sentences and the jailing of several hundred others — as good, because they have shown that the old Mafia, at least that code of silence has been broken.

But the manner of Mafia command — the oblique signal from above, the channelling of the leaders' wishes, the recruitment of a teenager anxious to become a "made man" — these are processes of infinite, almost oriental, subtlety. In the future, one suspects, defence lawyers will devise methods of unravelling a prosecution case based on the hearsay of Mafia traitors singing for their freedom.

Signor Falcone's predecessors have been killed, so have local investigative journalists, the Communist deputy and dedicated anti-Mafia campaigner Signor Pio La Torre, and the Carabinieri general, Carlo Dalla Chiesa.

Buscetta has not set a precedent: few others are likely to spill the beans. As the vengeance killings mount in Sicily during the coming weeks, it will be clear to anybody contemplating a more intimate relationship with the police that silence is in the interests of their health.

There is a repositioning of the Mafia dynasties. The

Paris pressed on IRA explosives link

By Philip Jacobson in Paris and Brian James in London

The French Minister of Defence, M. André Giraud, has been asked by a member of the National Assembly to comment on allegations that explosives produced by a French state-owned company have ended up in the hands of IRA bomb makers.

The written question to M. Giraud refers specifically to the powerful material known as Gelsurite 2000, which is produced exclusively by the Société Nationale de Poudres et Explosifs (SNPE).

As *The Times* reported last month, this was the explosive used in a huge bomb known to have been planned by the Irish National Liberation Army in Chelsea Bridge Road in November 1985.

There has been an official

government inquiry into illegal arms sales to Iran by SNPE: this week M. Giraud dismissed the company's president, M. Guy-Jean Bernardy.

According to Defence Ministry sources in London, inquiries are continuing into "other aspects" of SNPE's export business. M. Giraud, it was said, is determined to discover the ultimate destination of certain consignments of explosives sent abroad.

With the charging yesterday of a senior executive in another important French weapons manufacturer in connection with the Iran arms shipments, it appears that the Chirac Government is intent on getting to the bottom of

what is evidently a complex and murky affair.

Apart from demonstrating to London a welcome desire to prevent any more French explosives reaching the IRA, the extensive investigations now under way can be expected to provide further political ammunition for use against France's former Socialist government.

In his question to the Defence Minister, M. Georges Mesmin, a conservative deputy, also asked whether legal proceedings would be initiated against anyone found to be involved in supplying material for use by the IRA. No formal response is expected from M. Giraud for between four and six weeks.

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South Korean election

Beaten candidate in vow to overthrow 'fraud' Government

From Gavin Bell, Seoul

Mr Kim Young Sam, a prominent South Korean opposition leader, vowed yesterday to overthrow the Government after bitterly denouncing the presidential election victory of Mr Roh Tae Woo, the ruling party candidate, as an unprecedented fraud.

Mr Kim, who was a poor second in Wednesday's poll, almost two million votes behind Mr Roh, said: "This is a coup under the name of election... it has been a manoeuvre to prolong military rule."

In a display of anger far from his moderate image, he said: "I have confirmed that this was a rigged election, unprecedented in our nation's history, carefully planned in advance and relying on government money, corrupt practices and violence."

"I declare that I will lead a struggle to overthrow the Government of President Chun Doo Hwan and Roh Tae Woo... I will put my life at stake in this struggle. We shall win."

Mr Kim had been expected to join a chorus of protests against alleged fraud, but the virulence of his remarks surprised some of his supporters. Fiery oratory in the opposition camp is normally the preserve of Mr Kim Dae Jung, a rival candidate who trailed him by fewer than 200,000 votes at the last count.

Mr Kim Dae Jung also

alleged corruption yesterday, but made no mention of plans for a revolution. In a sullen mood, he told reporters: "This is a rigged election... I have said repeatedly that President Chun Doo Hwan and Roh Tae Woo must bear responsibility for these irregularities."

In Seoul, students were converging last night on an industrial district to protest against an alleged incident of fraud during the vote-counting. They said they planned mass rallies in cities throughout the country to demand that the election be declared invalid.

Earlier in the day Mr Roh, who is due to assume office in February, had pledged to cooperate with the opposition and other dissidents in implementing democratic reforms. "I will listen to the full spectrum of public opinion with an open mind... That is the way to comply with the wishes of the people who want democratic reform and national development in a climate of reconciliation."

The allegations of fraud were supported by the National Council for Democracy, a powerful organization of dissidents, which reported 365 confirmed cases during the voting and counting.

"We will not and can not accept the victory of candidate Roh Tae Woo in such an obviously fraudulent election," it said. "We shall gather up the strength of the entire

people to act against the undemocratic conspiracy of the ruling regime."

Resentment among many opposition supporters yesterday was mitigated by disappointment with the costly rivalry between their own leaders.

Even in defeat the two Kims remained divided. Each, at separate press conferences, claimed confidently that he would have been elected if there had been no fraud.

● KWANGJU: Thousands of students reacting to the result were involved in clashes with police here yesterday (A Correspondent writes).

More than 2,000 riot police continued to patrol the heart of the city in preparation for further protests today, as dissidents have vowed to stage nationwide demonstrations against what they consider a fraudulent election.

Protesters hurled stones, bottles and broken paving slabs at the police after tear gas was used to break up a rally in front of the provincial building in this city of 900,000.

Shopkeepers drew their shutters and complained that the clash was hurting business.

Confusion and resignation dominated this opposition stronghold, where Mr Kim Dae Jung received 93 per cent of the votes in Wednesday's election.

Fateful days, page 12
Leading article, page 13

The people's voice is music to ears of 'ordinary' Roh

From Our Own Correspondent, Seoul

Mr Roh Tae Woo, aged 55, who has been elected to guide South Korea through its transition to democracy, likes to be known as "an ordinary man with big ears" who listens to the voice of the people.

He did so with dramatic results last June, when, as leader of the ruling Democratic Justice Party, he persuaded President Chun Doo Hwan to yield to a civilian revolt and accept his package of sweeping democratic reforms. He thereby gained the remarkable distinction of having played a key role in installing President Chun's authoritarian regime in 1980, and then in ending it seven years later.

The paradox compromised his subsequent attempts to win friends and influence people with his new-found commitment to democracy. Controversy persists between those who admire him as a sincere liberal reformer and those who regard him as a political opportunist with a murky military background.

The son of a poor farmer, he met President Chun at the Korean Military Academy in Seoul where they became

classmates. He later commanded an elite Korean combat unit in the Vietnam War.

As an army division commander, Mr Roh moved his troops from a front-line position near the demilitarized zone to Seoul, assisting President Chun's seizure of power in a bloodless coup. Opposition leaders have accused him repeatedly of involvement in the bloody suppression of an anti-government uprising in the city of



Mr Roh: Trying to distance himself from military past.

Kwangju a few months later.

Since leaving the army as a four-star general in 1981, he has served as Minister of State for political, national security and foreign affairs, Sports Minister and Interior Minister.

In 1983 he was appointed president of the Seoul Olympics organizing committee, and left the job last July only upon becoming chairman of the Democratic Justice Party. He campaigned successfully on a platform of democratic reform with stability, and independent sources say he is an able politician.

Married with one son and one daughter, he speaks fluent Japanese but little English. Perhaps surprisingly, he lists the German pacifist Hermann Hesse among his favourite authors.

In sharp contrast with the austere image of his old military classmate, Mr Roh apparently has a wry sense of humour. Asked by a reporter once about speculation that he might succeed President Chun, he said: "My name in Korean literally means great fool. How can a fool run a great country like ours?" Time will tell.

Israeli TV catches a Shin Bet agent in the act



An Israeli civilian firing his Uzi sub-machine gun in the direction of stone-throwing Palestinian demonstrators in the occupied Gaza Strip yesterday. The incident was reported by Israeli television in its main evening news (Reader reports from Tel Aviv). The "civilian" shown on television shoot-

ing at protesters was, in fact, an agent of the Shin Bet security service, Israeli security sources said yesterday. He was a member of a unit protecting agents travelling in the occupied territories. In the televised incident the agent chased stone-throwing Palestinian youths from a barricade of burning

tyres on a main road, then stood off the fleeing protesters. Shin Bet officers are furious with the exposure of their man and of agency methods, the sources said. Israeli security forces have strict orders not to shoot at protesters unless their lives are en-

dangered. An Army spokesman said that the head of Israel's Southern Command, Major-General Yitzhak Mordechai, had ordered an investigation. The agent was identified from the licence plates of his van shown on television. There was no sign that anyone was injured in the incident.

Jerusalem counts cost of Sharon guard

From Ian Murray, Jerusalem

The cost of providing the 34 police needed to guard the two-roomed flat of Mr Ariel Sharon, the Israeli Trade and Industry Minister, in the Muslim quarter of the Old City of Jerusalem will be about £180,000 a year, according to informed sources here.

This is in addition to the £65,000 currently spent annually on guarding his ranch in the desert.

The very existence of the flat, 100 yards inside the Damascus Gate, continues to provoke public demonstrations among students at nearby Arab schools in East Jerusalem.

These occurred for a second

consecutive day yesterday, while shops in the Old City remained resolutely shut for a third day, making it one of the longest such demonstrations for such times.

Shopkeepers are prepared to give up a lucrative Christmas trade to show their anger about the flat and the continuing troubles in the occupied territories.

The West Bank and Gaza Strip were yesterday at their calmest for 10 days. There were strikes and demonstrations in Nablus and Gaza, while a curfew was reimposed in Balata camp, near Nablus and in Rafiah in Gaza.

There were no reported

gunfire casualties, and the most serious reported injury was to someone who was taken to security headquarters in Nablus after being hit by a rubber bullet.

Security sources privately attribute at least some of the blame for the troubles to Mr Sharon's move into the Old City, which is seen as an irritation at a time when tempers are running high.

The Mufti of Jerusalem, Sheikh Saad ad-Din al-Alami, issued a statement criticizing the "dangerous and infuriating act of the butcher of Lebanon, the bloodthirsty Sharon". He said it was all part of a Government-backed

plan "to kick out" the Arabs. Mr Yaacov Tsur, the Immigration Minister, spoke for many of his Labour Party colleagues in calling the move "hoiism under Government auspices".

Mr Sharon, however, is totally unrepentant. He claims he moved in to improve local security after the stabbing to death of two Jewish students in the area, and hopes that other Jews will follow his example.

As far as the extra police guard is concerned, he says he has never requested protection but "if, as a result of my work over the last few decades against Arab terror, I have

become a terrorist target, I don't have to apologize for it". He claims that Mr Menachem Begin, the former Likud Prime Minister, has telephoned to give his blessing for the move.

Arab residents of his block of flats, which is owned by a Jewish charity, claim that their homes were searched by police with sniffer dogs while they were out, and that their property was left in disorder.

Several families now claim that they were evicted to make way for Jewish tenants. Others, with a protected lease, claim they have been offered substantial sums to leave. They say they would rather stay.

Bhopal tragedy in court

Union Carbide ordered to pay £148m

From Kuldip Nayar, Delhi

The Union Carbide Corporation was ordered by an Indian court yesterday to pay 3.5 billion rupees (£148 million) in interim relief to victims of the 1984 Bhopal poison gas leak.

A district judge, Justice M.W. Deo, ordered the American company to pay the money into court within two months while he decides who is to blame for the world's worst industrial disaster that killed 2,800 people and injured about 20,000 others.

The court in the central Indian city of Bhopal was crowded with relatives and friends of victims, who cheered when the judgement was handed down. Some of the injured, still carrying the

marks of the tragedy, were also present.

The Indian Government is suing Union Carbide for a total of some £1.8 billion damages over the leak of gas from its pesticides plant on December 3, 1984.

Mr Vepa Sarthy, the Indian Government lawyer, described the verdict as an excellent judgment. But the lawyer for Union Carbide, Mr Anil Dewan, said: "We will study the judgment before deciding further action." The judgment can still be challenged, first in the State High Court, and then the Supreme Court of India.

The corporation's legal team had opposed interim relief on the grounds that such

a payment would amount to "adjudication before trial". They had also challenged the authority of court to issue such a ruling.

Justice Deo countered this argument in his judgment when he said: "The inherent powers (to grant relief) are born with the creation of the court, like the pulsating life coming with a child born into this world. Without inherent powers, the court would be like a stillborn child."

The judgment has come in the wake of the failure of the sides to agree an out-of-court settlement said to have been set at some £350 million. But this was set aside when the Indian Parliament protested

about what it saw as a "leakage" of settlements.

The Government filed its £1.8 billion claim for damages on September 5, 1986, accusing Union Carbide of negligence. Union Carbide's case is that the leakage of gas was due to sabotage, a theory the Indians reject. The case was initially filed in a US court, which ruled that the matter be decided by an Indian court.

● NEW YORK: Union Carbide reacted swiftly to the ruling, which it said "amounts to awarding damages without a trial, a practice that runs counter to the laws of India and other democracies" (Reader reports).

Chissano offers amnesty

Maputo (Reuters) — President Chissano of Mozambique, battling a 12-year insurgency which has paralysed his country's economy, announced an amnesty yesterday for rebels who lay down their arms.

He told the Mozambique Popular Assembly (Parliament) that thousands of rebels were being manipulated or held against their will, and that there would be a pardon "for all those who abandon terrorism and crime".

● GENEVA — Mozambican National Resistance guerrillas have freed Sister Maria Gabriela Fragozo, a Portuguese nun they captured in February, the International Committee of the Red Cross said.

Bodies found

Manila (Reuters) — Soldiers recovered 10 bodies, one of them a girl aged seven, from the wreckage of a Philippine Airlines jet aircraft which crashed on Mindanao island.

Petrol curbs

Kampala (Reuters) — Uganda is to ration petrol after its main supply route was cut by three days of armed clashes along its border with Kenya.

Refugees stay

Hong Kong (Reuters) — Eleven Vietnamese sailors and nine women and children who arrived here on a naval tug have been allowed to stay as refugees.

Lost badges

Washington (Reuters) — More than 6,000 employee identification badges allowing free movement through Los Angeles Airport are missing, The Washington Post said.

Inmates killed

San Pedro Sula, Honduras (AP) — Prison guards shot dead four inmates and injured 20 others protesting over prison conditions.

Suicide bid

Copenhagen (Reuters) — Two Iranian refugees who slit their wrists in protest against being deported from Denmark were flown out of the country after hospital treatment.

Cardinal dies

The Hague (Reuters) — Cardinal Alfrink, who became a symbol of liberalism in the Dutch Catholic Church during his 21 years as primate, has died aged 87.

Car tragedy

Orange Park, Florida (AP) — A boy aged three who started a car on fire and killed a five-year-old playmate, the Florida Highway Patrol said.

Tokyo quakes as offices sway

From David Watts, Tokyo

The threat of violent earth tremors and the possibility of instant destruction are ever-present in Tokyo and run deep in the Japanese psyche.

Yesterday, the worst tremor for many months killed two people and injured 53. Next time it might be hundreds of thousands, and for three minutes yesterday, swaying 20 floors above the ground, it felt as though "next time" had come.

Normally the tremors gather strength slowly. But yesterday, soon after 11 am, it felt like a punch in the solar plexus of the building, and for a split second it seemed as if the skyscraper was lifting up.

Like a boat, the building swayed and rolled with more subterranean surges of energy. After a while, you focus all your attention on trying to discern whether the earthquake is gathering intensity, and therefore about to deposit the building on the pavement in a pile of smashed concrete, or dying away. If images of the Great Tokyo Earthquake of

Chiba — Yesterday's earthquake in the Tokyo area was strongest in this prefecture, just east of the capital, where a falling statue killed a 32-year-old woman and another woman died under a collapsing stone wall, according to police (AP reports). A police official said 43 of the 53 injuries occurred in Chiba, "most of them from objects falling from shelves". Eleven houses were damaged seriously, and 7,522 other houses suffered minor damage such as smashed roof tiles. At least nine people were injured in central Tokyo and one in the neighbouring Ibaraki prefecture, most of them by falling objects. More than 486,000 passengers were affected as 584 trains were cancelled and 599 others were delayed, some for as long as three hours and 20 minutes, a railways spokesman said.

1923 do not exactly swim before the eyes, you remember that it took the lives of at least 60,000 people.

The second concern is motion sickness. Modern Tokyo skyscrapers are built to roll and sway with the tremors, and after a minute or so it is much like being 400 yards offshore in a fishing coble.

So far there has been no opportunity to test whether all high-rises will sway uniformly in one direction. When the chance does come, it may be academic. But the city fathers are convinced that Tokyo is virtually earthquake-proof, and a team of earthquake-watchers is always on the alert.

At the latest earthquake's epicentre, offshore to the north-east and more than 40 miles below the sea, its magnitude was 6.6 on the Japanese scale, which is roughly equivalent to Richter. In Tokyo, its force was measured at 4, about half the strength of the great earthquake that haunts Japan.

Centuries of watching for the signals of approaching ruin have left Japan prepared. Yesterday, computers automatically cut power to hundreds of trains and prepared to stop gas and electricity supplies to reduce the danger of fire. One more notch on the scale, and both fire services would have been closed down.

The rush to telephone loved ones after a tremor has taught the authorities to forestall the probability of telephone circuits becoming so jammed that emergency services cannot work properly. Fifty per cent of all calls from telephones not specially designated for use in emergency are cut off automatically during a tremor to prevent overloading.

Lifts stop automatically — even though they may be 60 floors up at the time — and stay that way until the building's soundness is assured. Yesterday it took some 90 minutes, while messages of reassurance to the occupants were broadcast on the public address system.

Television news runs countless clips of nonplussed news readers blurting out in mid-broadcast: "This is a really big one," or interviewees, being filmed at the crucial moment, casting horrified glances at a vibrating ceiling.

Everyone has tremor stories to tell, unless they happened to be on the Underground at the time. Now, however, it is all over — until the next time.

Benazir set for Pakistani 'wedding of century'

From Karan Thapar, Karachi

Karachi taxi drivers are already referring to it as Pakistan's "wedding of the century" as Miss Benazir Bhutto prepares to enter marriage today with a polo-playing Baluchi landowner, Mr Asif Zardari.

The groom was chosen by the family of Miss Bhutto, daughter and heir presumptive of the executed former Prime Minister, Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, who was executed after being deposed in a coup in 1977.

For the 34-year-old Miss Bhutto, educated at Radford

and Oxford, this marriage will be a moment of rare happiness after a decade which has held her father's hanging, her own incarceration in prison and house arrest and a spell in exile in London.

Some might argue that she is not as popular with the Pakistani masses as she was last year, when millions crisscrossed the streets and brought city centres to a halt to welcome her home from exile.

But yesterday there was little doubt that, police aside, the wedding is destined to

become a popular carnival.

There was growing competition for the cream and gold invitations to tonight's wedding reception and dinner. A thousand people have been invited, but closed-circuit television arrangements have been made for the expected 20,000 more who will want to witness the festivities at the nearby Kakri grounds.

But the most cherished card is the green, gold and cream invitation to the Muslim nikah wedding ceremony. It is for family and close friends only.



Miss Bhutto: Her supporters expected to turn out in force.

in the act

iron guard

Chissam offers amnesty

Bodies found

Petrol curbs

Refugees set

Lost badge

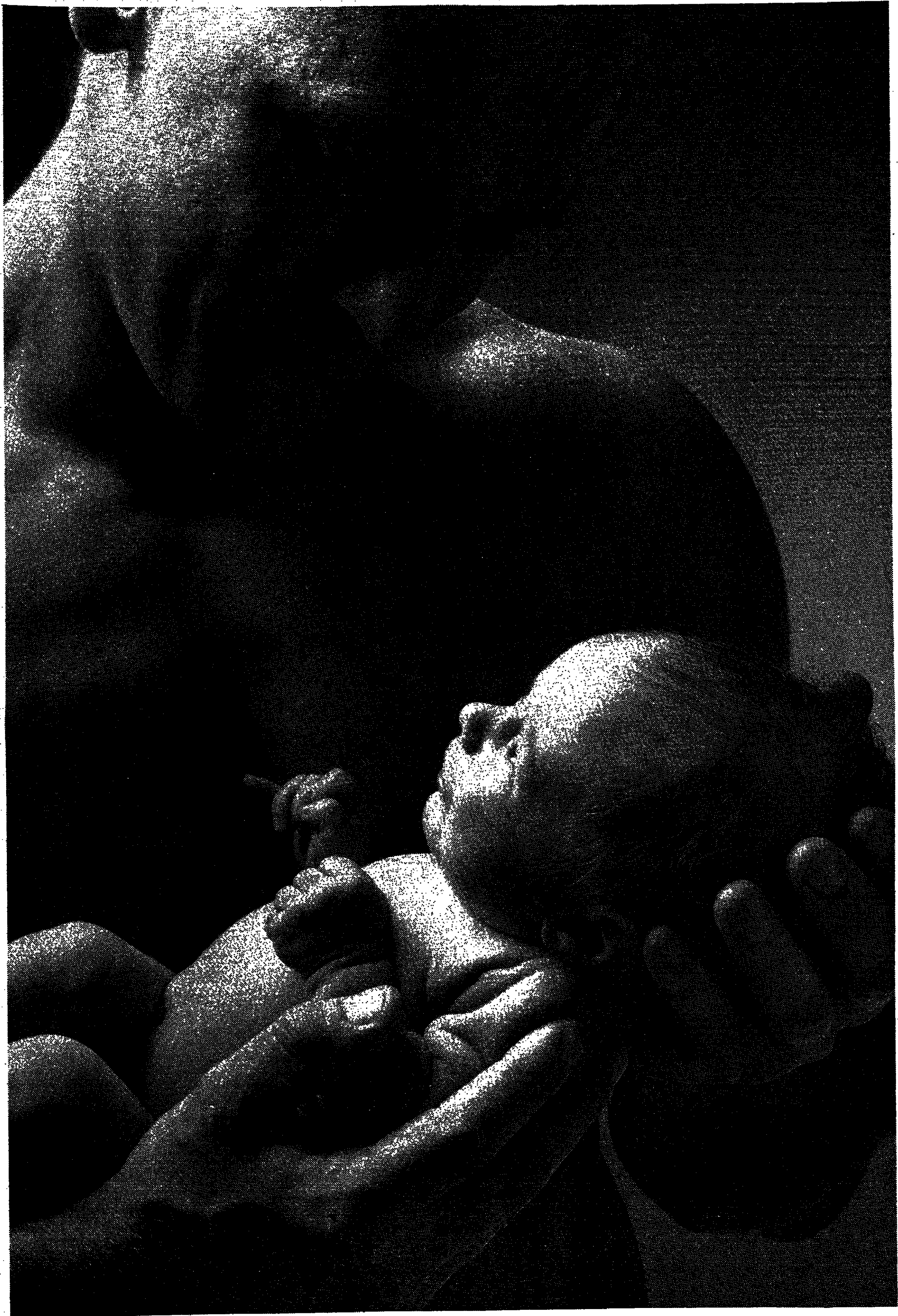
Inmates kill

Suicide bid

Cardinal

Car traced

150



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Are stars good for your health?

The right name can lift a medical charity from obscurity to big money: a bonus, reports Victoria McKee, at this time of NHS cash shortages

The biggest breakthrough in modern medical history may well have been the discovery that celebrities can be good for your health. The real war against disease is fought in hospitals and laboratories — and in the homes and hearts of the afflicted. But the public propaganda battle is becoming equally important.

By leading their names and faces the famous are at the forefront of the fight for funds, encouraging the flow of public money into medical coffers and spurring businesses to underwrite specific health projects.

"The competition for donations is fierce," says John Walford, general secretary of the Multiple Sclerosis Society of Great Britain. "There are over 162,000 charities now in Britain alone which want your money. Anything that can lift the profile of the charity, such as celebrity involvement, is vital."

When the world learnt that Ronald Reagan had a cancerous growth removed from his large intestine, bowel cancer, the great unmentionable, became dinner party conversation and the Imperial Cancer Research Fund rejoiced in the way donations flooded in ("It was, quite frankly, wonderful for us," they said at the time).

Bob Champion won his race against testicular cancer and not only lived but became a father afterwards. Now he heads his own appeal for the Royal Marsden Hospital, where he was treated.

When Sir Harry Secombe became the cheery public face of the British Diabetic Association, letters as well as money poured in — addressed to him personally.

Dyslexia was not even officially acknowledged as a learning disability until Susan Hampshire became its champion, and hardly anyone

had heard of Birthright, the woman's health charity itself modestly admits, until the Princess of Wales became its patron. It now attracts an enviable £1 million a year in donations.

Under the patronage of the Duchess of York the recently launched Search '88 has raised £500,000 for cancer causes, and the Imperial Cancer Research Fund says that the duchess's involvement has made cancer "trendy" as a charity at last.

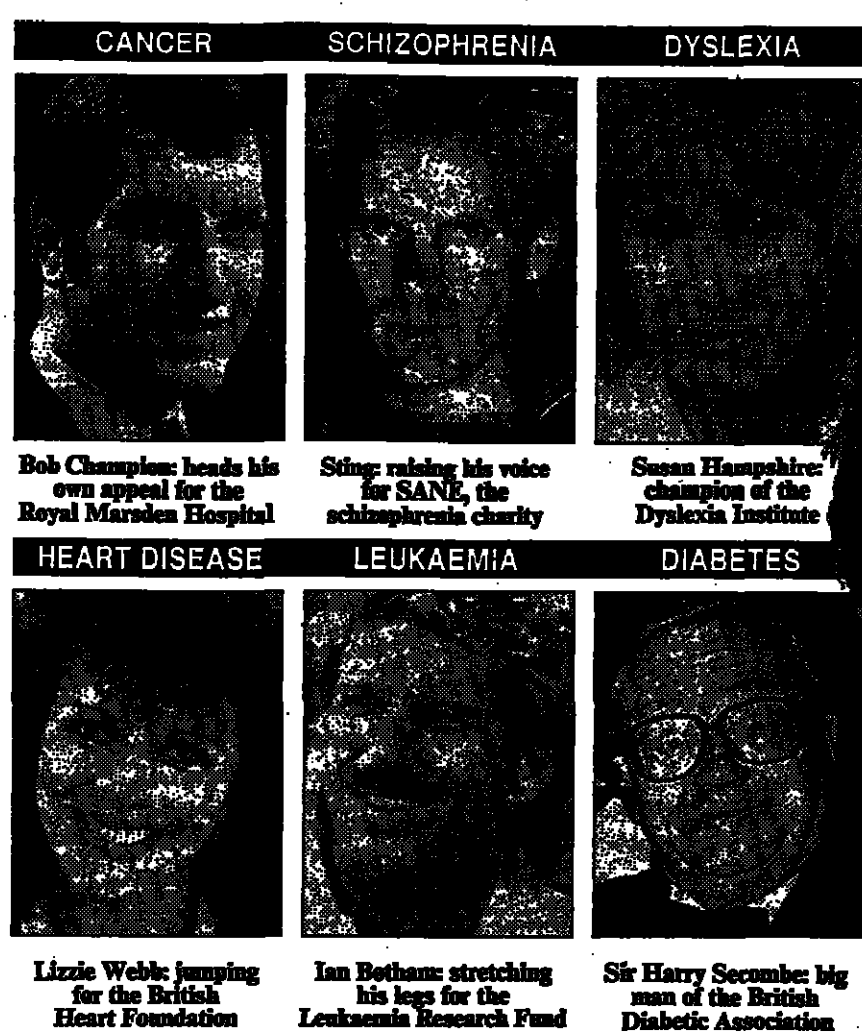
As *The Times* reported on Monday, the actor Ian McKellen expects to raise at least £250,000 for the London Lighthouse Aids hospice from a month's charity performances of his one-man show *Acting Shakespeare*.

On Monday an auction will be held in aid of the new Virgin Healthcare Foundation. It is hoped that the clothes, jewellery, photographs and memorabilia donated by celebrities from David Bailey to Andrew Lloyd-Webber (on display at Hamilton's Gallery, Mayfair) will raise £150,000.

The foundation, launched in November by Richard Branson of the Virgin Group in partnership with Anita Roddick of The Body Shop International, is an ambitious enterprise which aims to bring together "leading figures from the retail, entertainment and communication industries to work together on positive and creative approaches to supporting modern health care crises".

Branson's intention is to conquer areas that conventional charities do not reach. "Things that the Hampstead-orientated women's charities wouldn't touch — like Aids and drugs," Branson says.

"One approach we are looking at is trying to get people to adopt a heroin addict and pay for his treatment," he enthuses. "We've



Bob Champion heads his own appeal for the Royal Marsden Hospital

Sting raising his voice for SANE, the schizophrenia charity

Susan Hampshire, champion of the Dyslexia Institute

Lizzie Webb jumping for the British Heart Foundation

Ian Botham: stretching his legs for the Leukemia Research Fund

Sir Harry Secombe: big man of the British Diabetic Association

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TELEVISION

Fly on the uproarious party wall

"This is your captain speaking," claimed an aged party in nautical threads and holding a yellow microphone. "Hail Ha!" came the response from one of his coeval guests. Outside the house, hirelings tossed buckets of water against the Georgian windows to simulate a raging sea; later, white sheets did service for icebergs. A jolly good time seemed to be being had by all.

Party Time (BBC2) resembled a succession of peculiarly vivid hangovers, during which one could recall only the phantasmic elements of the night before the snuffbagging whimsy of the QE2 thrash; the spoilt, vacant faces of the nobles; the beer-swilling troglodyte headbangers in a council flat; the bright young theme-party designers all called Caroline or Darling.

By the time the closing sequence of an old folk's home rolled around, one simply saw it as a lost episode from Evelyn Waugh, with chair-bound geriatrics staring in consternation at a jovial troupe of entertainers rehearsing songs of a patriotic flavour. Philip Barm Carter's film recorded neither fist-fights nor gross impropriety, which may suggest that his camera was all too visible.

The admirable *Rough Justice* (BBC1) bowed out of its current series with some highly technical trickery. A man now serving 18 years was convicted of robbing a bank solely on the evidence of its in-house video film. With the help of computer enhancement normally used for satellite pictures, an improved image was obtained of the robber, and an expert in physiognomy then compared it with a photograph of the prisoner. In parallel, a team of surveyors used the same film to demonstrate a critical discrepancy in height. Once again, one was left wondering why a television programme can conduct such research when, it appears, the police cannot.

Martin Cropper

A dancer's guide to survival

John Percival reports from the battle front as contemporary companies fight for their lives

Tucked away in the small print of the Arts Council's latest annual report is a little paragraph reporting that one of its grant-aided dance companies, Mantis, went out of business earlier this year. The event attracted little comment at the time because it was seen as inevitable.

Mantis was a small group which, under Misha Bergese's direction, had done some enterprising work on tiny resources. That led to the offer of regular funding, and Bergese used his increased resources to mount bigger spectacles, which he hoped would attract large audiences. The gamble did not work. Later Mantis hopes to resume on a more modest scale.

Similar crises do not always end badly. Janet Smith and Dancers, a middle-of-the-road company, had prospered under prudent policies and careful house-keeping, but lately it found itself accumulating a deficit. The problem was that its grant, following usual practice, was conditional on touring the British regions, and the increased costs of touring brought a position where the company deeper into debt.

With help from the Arts Council's officers, a survival plan has now been worked out. The usual rules about balancing the books will be stretched to allow three years for working off the debts, and the company will be permitted to concentrate its touring commitments in Britain within shorter periods so that it can accept more lucrative engagements abroad during the summer festival period.

Recent suggestions that the Arts Council's Dance Advisory Panel would be taking an axe to one of its major dance clients must be regarded with considerable scepticism in the light of such case histories. What they have done is to review



Robert Cohan: irreplaceable?

their priorities to make best use of the money available.

Luke Rittner, the council's secretary-general, said on BBC2 the other day that, given enough money, they would want equally to ensure the health of the big national companies on the one hand, and experiment on the other.

If a crunch does come (and the Arts Minister's latest indications have at least postponed the immediate danger), the two Royal Ballet companies are safe, with a firm commitment for three years. At the other extreme, really small-scale experimental work should be reasonably safe; eliminating that would save very little. It is the companies in between that must look over their shoulders.

Among them, London Contemporary Dance Theatre stands out as being the only dance company in Britain still under the same direction and still pursuing substantially

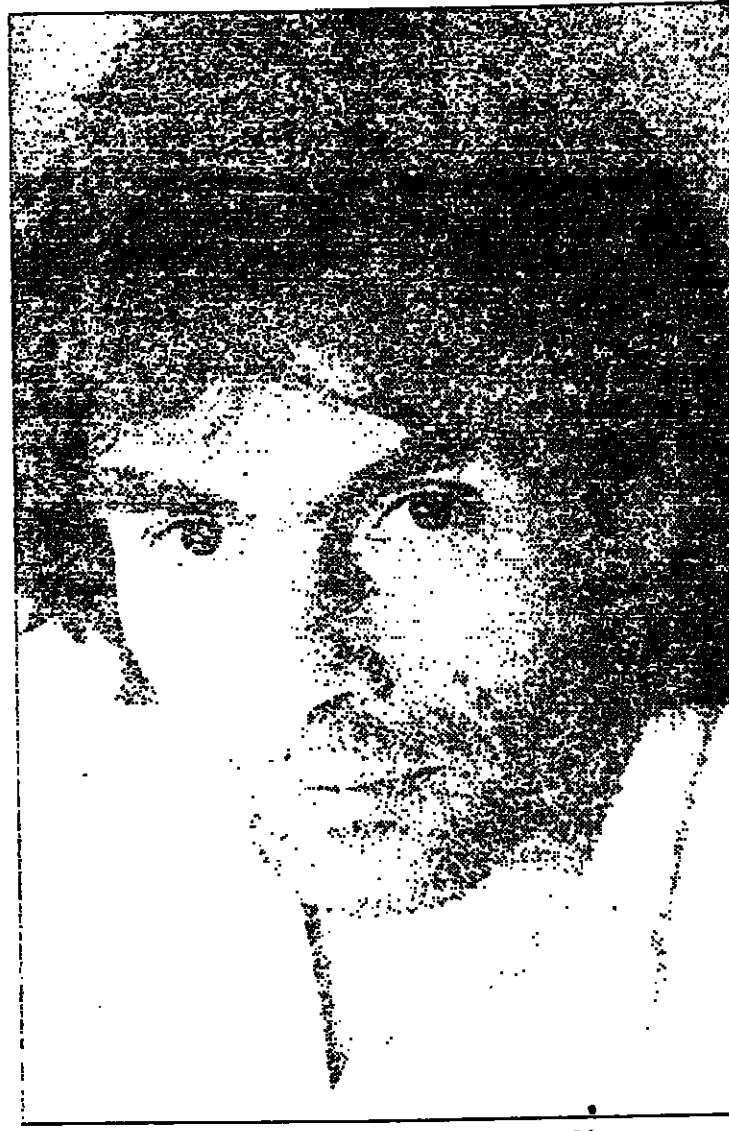


Janet Smith: Arts Council help

the same artistic policies as 20 years ago when it was founded. That must make it subject to the closest scrutiny, especially as there is a wide-spread feeling that its new productions are often less good than its exceptionally fine dancers deserve.

Three years ago, it advertised for a new artistic director because Robert Cohan wanted to give up that burden; it found nobody suitable. Now it is trying again, and looking also for someone to take over most executive functions from its founder and chairman, Robin Howard. The advertisement specifies an intention to establish new policies from 1988, and it is believed that drastic re-organization on a completely different basis is not ruled out of the options.

London Contemporary shares certain problems with all other touring companies, but ballet and contemporary dance managements agree that several factors contribute



Misha Bergese: spectacular shows could not save his company

to a situation where it is harder to sell tickets in the regions.

Among them are high unemployment in some towns; the location of many theatres in city centres that are depressingly deserted at night; sometimes poor public transport, especially on Saturday nights; and the wide-spread use of home videos as an alternative to going out for entertainment.

All this has probably hit contemporary dance harder than classical ballet because families wanting a night out are more likely to opt for the latter. Even among serious dance fans, there are still many who remain suspicious of modern companies. The "once bitten" principle applies.

I have a suspicion, in fact, that the cause of new and experimental dance is often unwittingly harmed by those who most want to help it. Channel 4 and BBC2 contain strong advocates of the dance avant-garde.

OPERA

Pop-up book world

Hansel and Gretel Coliseum

It was clearly obvious to David Pountney that *Hansel and Gretel* is a work of innocence so impenetrable that any attempt to send it up or to lend it social realism would rebound disastrously on the luckless producer's head. Yet one would have to be as blissfully naive as Humperdinck himself to take it at face value. Mr Pountney's solution is ingenious: it is to play the opera at once for parody and for "relevance", but let the first attack the second.

Somewhere at the back of this production is an "interpretation" in which Hansel and Gretel are the victims of a deprived 1950s childhood. The witch is not a revelation of the wickedness within the mother, but perhaps rather she is the mother the children would like to have: smartly dressed in the corset suit and fox of bourgeois propriety, and with a kitchen all Gingham-frilled and cared-for. Only when they have destroyed this fantasy figure can the children begin to discover that maybe mum and dad were not so bad.

The seriousness of this reading, though, is beautifully and delicately undermined. The period kitchen is not so much a realistic interior as a designer's showpiece, assembled before our eyes like something in a pop-up book. And when Hansel and Gretel go off, inevitably, to a public park rather than to the Urwald, again the main point seems to be that of creating a design opportunity. Stefanos Lazaridis is responsible for all these visual wonders.

The only point at which the modernization becomes too heavy is when a raincoated gent shows an unsavoury interest in the lost children. One is quite disarmed, though, by the arrival of the guardian angels as ghostly figures from a child's heaven of safe adulthood.

Felicity Palmer, as the Mother Witch, enjoys the opportunities given her for spite and fake gentility, expressed both vocally and in unbuttoned acting performances. Cathryn Pope as Gretel looks and behaves uncannily like an 11-year-old girl, except only in the fine-tuned brilliance of her singing. Ethna Robinson inevitably has more difficulty in looking like a boy, but her vocal acting is excellent, as is her diction (children, who will certainly enjoy the production, may need to be told the story ahead in some detail). Norman Bailey, the Father, deserves a special commendation for staying cool while the set crashed around him: to have the production backed by Legal & General looks like a wise precaution.

Paul Griffiths

THEATRE

Another country, right or wrong?

Between East and West Hampstead Theatre

The subject of Richard Nelson's new play is displacement; whether it is possible for human beings to resettle themselves in a foreign land, Nelson seems to doubt it.

Gregor and Erner are Czech dissidents recently arrived in New York; he is a theatre director, she an actress. But since she has left Prague unwillingly the chances of a successful transplant look slender. He left to avoid arrest, a powerful reason for staying away. She came because she is his wife.

Once realized, this fault in the structure halves the play's interest because, of course, she is going to mope in the apartment, fail to pronounce the English w and dream of walking again in the mountains of Bohemia. For her the question of resettlement is never seriously considered.

His predicament is the more interesting: one of accommodating himself to the different practices (in his case theatrical) of the West. But the details of his failure are not revealed, nor even the difficulties along the way; Nelson simply lets it be mentioned in

an ironic aside, but with our limited knowledge of the realities of Gregor's life outside the neat apartment, where all the scenes take place, we have insufficient means to interpret his failure. It is just the problems of *Mitleuropa* again?

The prison scenes in *Principia Scriptoriae*, Nelson's last play over here, created a sense of human courage holding out against panic that will not easily be forgotten by those who saw it. Like the new play it moved about in time but for a precise dramatic effect. In *Between East and West* the purpose of following one scene with its predecessor feels more like tarring up a tale that is thin on development.

Nelson can write engrossing scenes of short questioning sentences, bristling with hurtful spines like the back of a wary serpent and delivering a surprise sting with the tail. Sheila Allen and John Wood, since she has left Prague unwillingly the chances of a successful transplant look slender. He left to avoid arrest, a powerful reason for staying away. She came because she is his wife.

Jeremy Kingston



Moping: Sheila Allen

Gaudy as a golden pumpkin

DANCE

Cinderella Covent Garden

The revival of *Cinderella* by the Royal Ballet last night was billed as a new production, but that means little more than that it has new designs by David Walker, who had been responsible for the costumes of the previous production with settings by Henry Bardon.

Mr Walker certainly understands what Covent Garden wants for present-day audiences. The new staging looks as expensive as it is doubtless (thanks to British Airways for sponsorship) and its entirely conventional, heavy, old-fashioned idea of sumptuousness will not frighten a soul.

Those of us who think that a ballet should be more imaginative in design will sigh in vain for the poetry and individuality of what Jean-Claude Malckeles did for Ashton's first *Cinderella*. We are stuck now with the apotheosis of a Palladium pantomime, and glitter, glitter, everywhere.

Even the pumpkin is gilded, and there were sequins all over the staircase carpets during the opening gala.

It is a pity that the mantelpiece in the first scene is so high that Cinderella can no longer put the portrait and the candle on it without clambering on a stool; even more so that many of the women's skirts move badly, and that the final scene is so arranged that apparently the happy lovers cannot be lit without casting giant shadows on what is supposed to be the sky.

Another disadvantage is that this prosaic traditionalism has nothing to do with the fantasy and harsh romanticism of Prokofiev's score, which made itself felt through playing which, after a brassy start, proved proficient rather than inspired (Isaiah Jackson conducted).

Partly concealed behind the garish trappings lies one of Frederick Ashton's best-loved ballets. In the dances for the fairies of the seasons and the ensemble representing the night stars, in *Cinderella*'s long solos and her two duets, lie some of his finest choreography, while the scenes for the stepsisters provide some of his funniest knockabout humour.

This has been remounted with help from the prince of the original production, Michael Somes, and apparently with a few revisions by the choreographer here and there, most valuably in the prince's



Yes, you shall go to the ball: Maria Almeida as Cinderella in the Royal Ballet production

solo. The company with newcomers in all four leading roles, did subdue justice to the ballet.

The romantic leads went to two of the youngest principal dancers. Maria Almeida dances with a sweet musicality and has feet that move prettily enough to float well through the more drifting passages of the solos. Jonathan Cope brings a splendid virility and a bounding technique to the prince.

According to advance publicity, they have long been a couple in private life. In spite of this, or perhaps because of it, they have not yet found how to suggest a spark of true love between the characters they played, except, very briefly, immediately after she tried on the slippers. The way she hugged her father (Leslie Edwards) and her stepsisters conveyed more warmth.

David Bintley and Derek Deane, the new ugly sisters, happily do not try to imitate

their famous one-time predecessors in the parts, Ashton and Robert Helpmann. All the jokes are there, but played straight or with a personal interpretation.

Both need time to build up the parts; but Bintley's myopically stooped, wizened little lady shows a resilient cheerfulness in affliction; she even finds interest in the jester's bauble at the end, where Ashton perennially refused all consolation. Deane has further to go before consolidating his portrait but it already has a surprising sprightliness.

Simon Rice as the jester, too, has presumably been encouraged to concentrate on his own cute whimsicality and virtuosity without trying to evoke the sad magic the role once had. Perhaps in consequence he is no longer allowed to arrive for a heartstruck farewell from his master in the last scene.

J.P.

In quiet homage to Ravel

CONCERT

Golden Ravel Queen Elizabeth Hall

Of the 11 pieces heard in this pair of concerts, devised by the pianist Julian Jacobson to remind us that December marks the 50th anniversary of Ravel's death, one work was conspicuously not by the composer we were commemorating.

Xenakis, renowned for his audacious formal concepts and a language one might reasonably call tumultuous, might seem an unlikely composer to choose to write a work in homage to a man whose own music is marked

by such refined and restrained exquisiteness. But in *2^e r.*, composed this year and heard in Britain for the first time in Jacobson's lunchtime recital, he shows an unsuspected side.

It is a side marked by brevity and by unaccustomed quietness. Still there are the cascades of notes, shaped in a dialogue of divergent, convergent or parallel scales and arpeggios, one for each hand at a time, and still there are the expressive and articulate chords and silences. But everything is gentler and more intimate than we usually hear from this composer.

This miniature is a delightfully transparent thing, and shows what happens when he disdains grandiloquence and makes a private piece.

Jacobson played the work with a confidence and secure

touch, although the performance could perhaps have been warmer. Indeed, the same problem beset the three short pieces by Ravel with which he began, the *Menuet Antique*, *Jeux d'Eau*, and the *Menuet sur le Nom de Haydn*.

However, in the grander suite of the *Valses Nobles et Sentimentales*, he relaxed a little and the music evoked exactly what it should have, while in *Le Tombeau de Couperin* he was able to summon a veritable plethora of tone colours and hence mood shadings.

Pianists of such sensitivity make ideal chamber music partners, and in the evening concert, Jacobson was joined by the violinist Elisabeth Phelps for what was the London debut of their new

group, the Trio of London. They gave another enterprising programme, which found space for the deliciously and uncharacteristically expansive early Violin Sonata of 1897, full of indulgently aromatic harmonies and a Franck-like melodic breadth.

In abrupt contrast, there was also the lean, at times even tart, Sonata for violin and Cello of 1920-22, which uncovered an impressive mutual empathy in its players, as well as the mature Violin Sonata, whose ever-changing character Perry and Jacobson clearly relished. How better to end the celebration than with the Piano Trio, here given a finely-crafted yet spontaneous reading.

Stephen Pettitt

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THE TIMES DIARY

Stringing along

A dinner date with the Prime Minister has sparked a membership row at the Foreign Press Association which could mar its centenary celebrations next year. A former president of the association is questioning the credentials of the honorary secretary, Kumar Dharmendra, who is due to take his place at the centenary dinner high table with the PM in January. Syed Mustafa, correspondent of Pakistan's *Daily Millat*, claims Dharmendra is not employed by the Indian newspaper group to which he is accredited. As FPA accreditation opens doors to royal events and Foreign Office briefings, as well as dinner with Mrs T, his membership could embarrass the organization. The FPA has now asked all 400 members to submit letters from their editors and examples of their recent work. Mustafa himself has not yet responded to the request, made in October.

For the first time in months Neil Kinnock rose but once during Prime Minister's questions yesterday. Modesty prevents me from concluding his brevity had anything to do with my report, also yesterday, of his usual verbosity.

Two to follow

The harmless Tory equivalent of the Billionaire Boys Club is taking stock of its fortunes. The Blue Chip dining club, as it became known because of its top flight political and social connections, was formed in 1979 by 12 of the most ambitious new Tory MPs that year. Eight years on John Patten, Chris Patten, Tristan Garel-Jones, William Waldegrave, Sir Nicholas Lyell, Richard Needham and Robert Atkins are all either ministers or whips. Of the five others, Peter Fraser remains Solicitor General for Scotland despite having lost his seat, and three are out of the Commons (though they remain country members); one, sadly, is dead. Now, just to show that this grouping of self-interest still means business, it has co-opted two new members: Alastair Goodlad, of the class of 1974, and Nicholas Soames, an MP since 1983. On past form we may predict great things of them both.

BARRY FANTONI



Maggie's moggy

Top cat Wilberforce, who until his retirement earlier this year kept down the mice at Downing Street, has had his portrait painted. The former RSPCA tabby is seen sitting in statesmanlike pose outside the door of No 10. The West End gallery offering the £550 painting, by Frances Broomfield, has yet to find a buyer.

Loophole

I wonder how many of the faithful at last night's carol concert at Westminster Cathedral knew the event contravened an edict from the Vatican. A recent directive on music in churches rules that "entrance to churches must be without payment and open to all", yet yesterday's sing-song was a tickets-only affair raising money for the KC charity, Cafod. A member of the cathedral priest hood told me the instruction need not apply because the building would normally be shut at that time. He added: "Unlike Anglo-Saxon law, which is benign but carried out in a draconian manner, like clamping horses outside churches, Roman law is draconian, applied in a benign way."

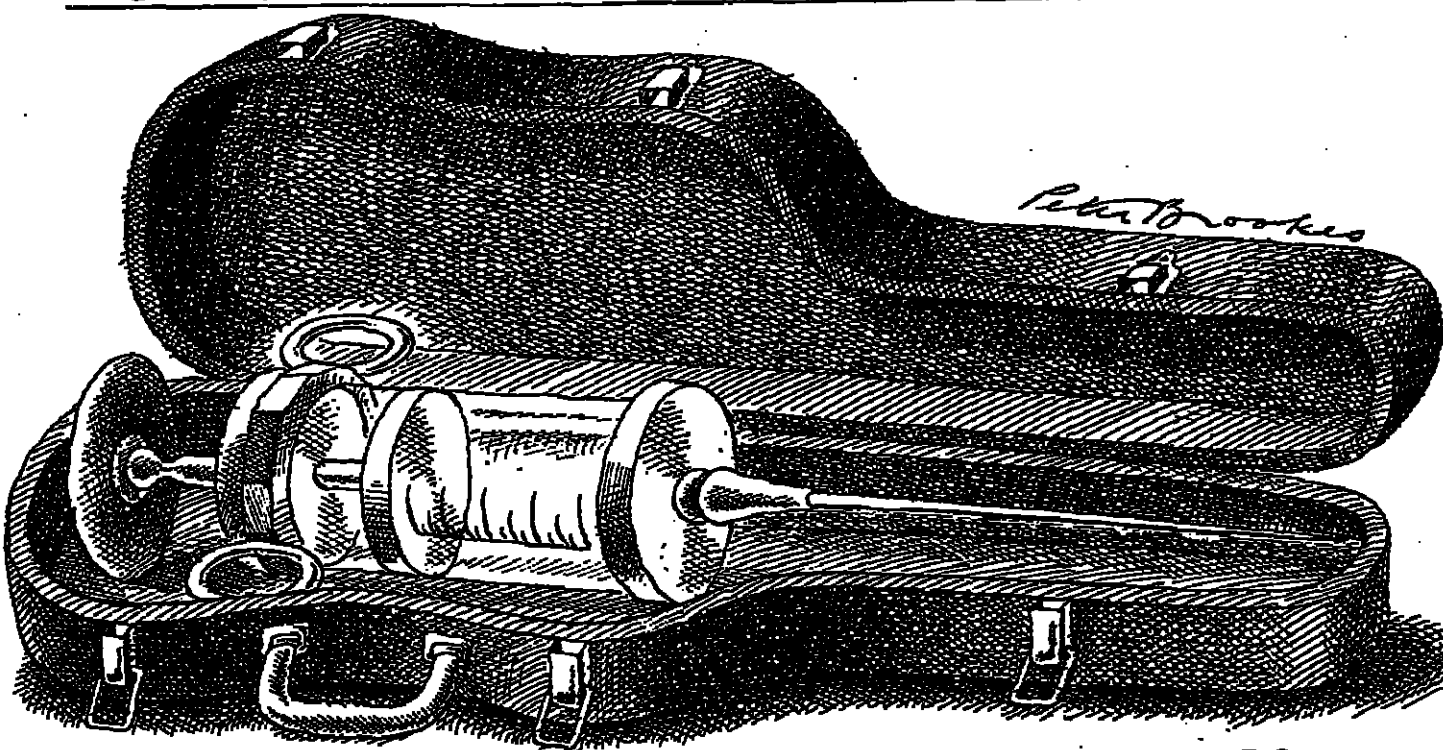
Let me just note from the French press for born-again White House candidate Gary Hart's celebrated dalliance with Donna Rice. It was, observed *Liberation*, *une vraie pantoufle*. My dictionary defines this delightful word, with its obvious derivation, as a bit of bootlegging in the most dubious taste. The prosecution rests.

Axe man

No burying of the hatchet between the *New Statesman* and the Labour Party for the festive season. A letter in the latest issue from Colin Byrne, of Mitcham, Surrey, attacks the direction the new editor, Stuart Weir, is taking the magazine, and objects especially to an article on pornography. What Byrne does not say is that he is a member of the Walworth Road public relations team. He tells me he wrote as an NS reader for 15 years and was not making a party political point. Would he have bothered writing, I wonder, if he had known the piece was commissioned by former editor John Lloyd?

PHS

Roger Boyes on a nastier breed replacing the old Sicilian families



Rise of the new Mafia

Rome It was not much of a home-coming for Antonio Ciulla. There were a few toasts to the three Ciulla brothers, acquitted on Wednesday night in the Mafia trial, but the neighbours sensed there was something amiss; there were no slaughtered calves for the Mafia prodigals.

Ciulla, not having eaten since breakfast, went to the delicatessen to buy some supper: a typical Palermo night, the street full of busy, antlike activity. He greeted an acquaintance who appeared not to hear. Then, two men called out "Antonio", the newly-free man wheeled, and was shot several times by a Smith & Wesson .38. The Mafia gave up the shotgun some time ago.

There were no witnesses to the first blood in Palermo since the biggest Mafia trial in post-war Italy. Unlike Ciulla - who was believed to have co-operated with the police - the Mafia is not dead, merely wounded. More vengeance killings can be expected during these long nights.

The biggest supergrass, Tommaso Buscetta, who broke the code of silence and made it possible to jail hundreds of Mafia this week, has lost some relatives. Given a largely symbolic three and a half year jail sentence, he will now disappear; plastic surgery and a Latin American passport await him.

The shattering of the code of silence had put Michele Greco, the 63-year-old "Pope of Crime", behind bars. For the first time it has been possible to pin a Mafia murder (in Greco's case over 70 killings) on the man who gave the order. But whether this will destroy the Mafia is doubtful.

The immediate effect has been to shift the balance of power within the Greco family and the criminal heroin business. Michele,

the head of the family, will be in prison for the rest of his life; Pino, the son and heir, has also been given a life sentence and will have to stay in hiding. It is plain that the Mafia heroin business is moving away from the old guard into more aggressive hands. The fight is now on for a slice of the biggest drug market in the world.

The fact is that the Mafia has become a hydra: cutting off a few heads only encourages growth. Mafia business-as-usual was best represented by the killing earlier this week of the cousin of the wife of Mario Cuomo, the leading Democratic Party non-candidate for the US presidency. The shooting was typical. The cousin, Franco Gatto, owner of a few shops in Sicily, was gunned down by a Mafia clan that is trying to control the public funding for a new railway line between Messina and Palermo. Gatto's involvement is obscure, and will remain so, but he was regarded as one of the old school; his killers were brash young men of the new Mafia.

The Mafia has evolved from its role as the "honoured society" protecting the people from weak, haphazard government and exploitative landowners, into a network of families and clans that have large, well-managed stakes in the criminal and illegal economies of the world. It has become the mirror image of the big Italian enterprises of the north, exporting heroin rather than personal computers. As quickly as the north has thrust forward, modernizing and Europeanizing Italy, so the south has sunk into a troglodyte gloom.

In its time the Mafia has worked every trick. A Mafia trust controls the renting of pews in Sicilian churches, another has contacts with showbusiness elsewhere in Europe and in the United States, yet another branch smuggles cheap clothes that are given false

high-fashion labels. Admittedly the Mafia does fight for urban renewal in Italy, but only in order to make a profit. It persuades its friends in government that slums should be ripped down, then visits the inhabitants, buys up their apartment blocks and sells at a high price to the authorities. The Italian building industry is permeated by the Mafia - highway construction means easy protection money - and so the struggle is on to persuade the government in Rome to "develop" the south.

Nowadays the heroin trade is the main preoccupation. The narcotic, the Sicilian equivalent of petrodollars, are flooding into the upper echelons of Palermo society. The locals do not much care for this new look Mafia. The catchword of the Mafia was always *omertà* (conspiracy of silence) but this was associated with the Christian virtue of *umiltà* (humility). The new boys, like Mario Prestifilippo, known as "The Saint" - the recently assassinated chief assassin of the Greco family - do not go in much for humility.

The heroin trade has achieved more than finding a young flashy generation of mob bosses. It has alienated many civilians from the quietly tolerated, even openly admired, qualities of the Mafia families. And it has stretched, if not severed, the connection between the Mafia and the Christian Democrats. It is not as easy as it used to be to buy one's way into the party.

Nowadays there are many honest people, says Signor Luigi Colajanni of the local Communist Party, "honest and helpless. After the war the Mafia helped the Christian Democrats to win the elections. Then it presented the bill, and the bill was so big that the party is still paying."

The Italian Mafia is faced with fewer political contacts, internal

discipline problems and declining popular tolerance. But its international money-making operations can survive these problems. There will always be corrupt local officials who will sanction the building of a new casino. The main concern at the moment, according to one Mafiaologist, is "not to poison the wells at home". Sicily must be kept loyal.

But the Mafia is at its strongest where the Sicilian economy is at its weakest. Not surprising, travel outside Messina and see the vast dumping ground for fruit - "Good orange crop this year," the locals say as they bulldoze hundreds of thousands of tons of it. The European Community, that great white hope for poorly developed southern Europe, has set a generous intervention price. As a result it is more profitable to destroy fruit than sell it. Unlike the old Mafia, oranges cannot be stored. About 25 per cent of Sicilian fruit crops are destroyed in this way, in some areas 80 per cent.

This is a good harvest for the Mafia, who have always been active in the orange groves. They are not only skimming profits from the European Community, the dumping also destroys the morale of the farmers, making sympathetic listeners and customers of the local Mafia families. One of the most effective wheezes for exporting processed heroin was tucking it inside oranges, their skins carefully re-sealed.

The brave widows of Mafia victims say: "We have to find competitive values to the Mafia." But there is not much chance of success, at least in Italy. It is not only orange farmers who look up to the local chiefs. A recent demonstration in Palermo against the 27 per cent unemployment on the island sprouted banners saying: "At least the Mafia gives us jobs." And so it does, so it does.

John Grigg

Mystery of the Canon's cat

When a person of some importance dies in tragic circumstances, little notice is taken of "unimportant" people who may have shared his fate. History records the assassination of Lord Moyne, not the simultaneous murder of his chauffeur. Indeed, the word "assassination" is reserved for top people. The likes of chauffeurs cannot be assassinated, only murdered.

Yet, if there is a class distinction in these matters between human beings, how much more so between the human race and what is called the brute creation. Everybody is now talking about the sad death of Canon Gareth Bennett, and all sorts of important questions are being asked about his *Crockford's* preface and the row it has provoked.

But I think we should also be asking: How, when and why did his cat die? What may have been the connection between the cat's death and his own? If the cat was killed, was its death justified?

During the week before the tragedy the cat is said to have been off its food. (Its name has been given as Tibby, but I am unaware of its sex so must use the neutral pronoun). When, on the evening of Monday December 7, the police entered Dr Bennett's house, they first discovered Tibby's body on the sitting room carpet. In the kitchen they found (according to *The Sunday Times*) a mess of cat food and excreta, though the Canon normally kept his house meticulously clean and tidy. Then, after searching the rest of the house, they found, in the garage, the body of the Canon himself, gassed in his car.

The police are said to have disposed of the cat's body. But did they first arrange an autopsy? There are no inquests on cats, but one would imagine the cause and timing of this one's death to be highly relevant to the inquest on the Canon, which has been postponed for four weeks.

If we discount the remote hypotheses that he was murdered or that his death was accidental, we seem to be left with two possible explanations. One is that he returned from Cambridge on December 5 to find Tibby dead, and this shocking discovery reduced his mind, already much disturbed, to a suicidal state. The other is that he killed the cat as a preliminary to killing himself.

I much prefer the first explanation. But if the second turns out to be the true one, was he justified in destroying a fellow-creature to which he was closely attached merely to facilitate the act of self-destruction - so that he could die without having a feline cat on his conscience? Since he cannot have credited Tibby with an immortal soul, he would have been depriving it prematurely of the only life

he believed it to possess.

The morality of such an act would, surely, have been very dubious.

Clearly, the first explanation is the more favourable to Dr Bennett. It also seems the more plausible, not least because it makes more sense of the mess in the kitchen. But we shall not know for several weeks, and perhaps shall never know.

In any case, it is agreed that Dr Bennett was very fond of his cat. Their relationship adds a further dimension not only of pathos, but of serious interest, to the story of his death. In *Mom and the Natural World* Keith Thomas tells us that the case of cats in human estimation was comparatively slow. In the Middle Ages they appear only occasionally as "companions and objects of affection."

But the legend of Dick Whittington's cat dates from the 16th century, and by the early Stuart period "there were plenty of authentic cat-lovers", including Archbishop Laud. In France, Cardinal Richelieu was another. Since then cats have come into their own as domestic pets. In possessing one Dr Bennett was in a vast company.

We tend to feel, in this country, that we have made friends outside our own species on a greater scale than any other nation. But is this wider sense of kinship, stretching beyond the human race - and very marked today in the growth of vegetarianism among the young - to be seen as a natural evolution of Christianity?

It can hardly be reconciled with the traditional doctrine that Man is entirely apart from the rest of Creation, though being made in God's image and uniquely endowed with an immortal soul. But Christ extended the bounds of sympathy and grace, and on a dynamic view of Christianity they should be extended further.

St Francis proclaimed an affinity between Man and all other creatures, and during the Renaissance a number of Christian neo-Platonists argued in much the same spirit. Their work was branded as heresy, but its message reappears in Coleridge's *Ancient Mariner*, which must surely be regarded as a great Christian poem.

It is easy to ridicule the sentiment "He prayeth best who loveth best / all creatures great and small." Belloc did so ("I love him least of all"). But it might, nevertheless, be more worthwhile for churchmen today to be questioning the supposedly absolute difference in the eye of God between human beings and all other creatures - thus to be maintaining an absolute difference between men and women in the matter of eligibility for the priesthood.

however... Henry Stanhope

Is there a doctor in the club?

Of all the singular cases which engaged the attentions of my friend Mr Sherlock Holmes, whose centenary falls this year, none better reflects his amazing gifts than that which I have called *The Gang of Four minus One*.

It opened one winter's morning in '87 in his Baker Street rooms, whence I had been summoned by an urgent message before dawn. "You will not be disappointed, Watson," he promised, as Mrs Hudson tried to repair my ill humour with a large if late breakfast. "Though I fear," he added, consulting his hunter, "that our visitor is, as usual, somewhat late."

Eventually, there was ushered into our presence a lady in black, her face heavily veiled against the swirling fog outside. It was only when she lifted the veil that I recognized the features of one of our leading politicians. "My dear lady," I cried, hastening to provide her with a chair, my sympathies aroused by her evident distress.

"My friend Dr Watson... Mrs Shirley Williams," said Holmes, perfunctorily introducing us, then motioning our visitor to begin.

"Mr Holmes," she said, turning her tragically beautiful face towards him. "You will be familiar of course with the term the Gang of Four?"

"That band of gallant desperados who tried to rescue the country from the grip of those ruthless villains Mr Gladstone and the Marquess of Salisbury?" he smiled. "Of course."

"Alas... it was such a brave venture," she went on. "However, it is not our plight with which I wish to burden you, Mr Holmes, but the loss of one of our late leaders. Gentlemen, Dr David Owen has disappeared."

"Good Lord! I could not help exclaiming. She turned her elegantly coiffured head towards me and continued in a faltering voice. "Yes, Dr Watson. One moment there we were, with the Lord Jenkins and Mr William Rodgers, the eminent architect, crossing the road to join the New Liberal and Social Democratic Party (the Alliance for short). Then the next, Dr Owen had gone. I fear he got lost on the central reservation. Can you please help?"

I did not see Holmes for weeks after. A succession of strange advertisements appeared in the "Situations Vacant" columns of *The Times* and *Morning Post* - accompanied by a *poste restante*

address which seemed familiar to me. But that was all.

Then one evening, as I was preparing for bed, there came a knock at my door - where I found a hackney cabby with a message asking me to attend "most urgently" an old patient of mine who had been taken ill at Number One, Whitehall Place.

The name was unfamiliar to me and I at first demurred. But the cabby said: "The gentlemen did say, sir, as 'ow I was not to return without Dr Watson, begging your pardon, sir." So with a bad grace, I seized my hat, coat and emergency bag, and climbed in.

We drove in silence through Trafalgar Square, the gas lamps glowing like lemons in the late evening mist. On arrival I leapt inside, my bag in my grasp, to be directed by a porter towards the dining room. There, stretched out on the floor amid the ruins of his supper, was a bearded man whom I had never seen before, while leaning over him, feeling his pulse, was an equally hairy waiter.

I knelt down beside the prostrate figure and seized his other wrist, when to my surprise he opened one eye and winked at me. Then to my amazement he thrust out a hand and seized the no-less astonished waiter by the beard.

I was about to protest on his behalf when my "patient" tugged violently at the beard which fell away to reveal - the familiar saturnine features of no less a person than the missing Dr Owen. At the same time, his assailant pulled off his own beard to disclose his true identity. "Good Lord, Holmes," I cried, while the unmasked politician hung his head in remorse beside us.

My friend lit a pipeful of shag in the hackney back, before affording me the explanation I demanded. "The poor wretch, unable to face the consequences of his folly, had sought refuge in the one place where he thought no one would dream of looking for him - the National Liberal Club. I deduced as much but could not tell which one he might be, there being so many bearded gentlemen inside. However, I suspected that his medical training would find him out, so I staged a collapse over my *charlotte russe* - and so it proved. I hope I have now persuaded him to return to the bosom of his party."

"Meanwhile," back to Baker Street, my good fellow, and let us hope that Mrs Hudson has prepared us a fine supper and a "liberal" hot toddy. Alas...

Korea's 70 fateful days

Gavin Bell reports from Seoul on the rising tide of anger after the opposition candidates' decisive election defeat

As Roh's victory became certain, supporters of Kim Dae Jung took to the streets, clashing with riot police in Kwangju

double-edged sword, allaying the suspicions of some observers but perhaps exacerbating anti-American sentiments which are rising among Korean youth.

In any event, Chun's administration has promised to thoroughly investigate the allegations and punish any wrongdoers. As the DFP leader, Roh is in a position to contribute to this inquiry. It is generally agreed that an open and impartial investigation would do much to defuse the present explosive atmosphere.

Another issue of immediate concern is how the government will react to the protest rallies and demonstrations planned by opposition groups. Diplomats fear repressive tactics will worsen the conflict, and imperil the reforms due to be implemented upon Chun's departure. One senior envoy expressed the hope yesterday that the security forces would restrict themselves to "restraint and containment".

The violent dispersal of protesters a few hours later in Kwangju did not augur well. Both Chun and his elected successor have vowed to deal firmly with disruptive elements, raising the gloomy prospect that things will get worse before they get better.

Third, there is widespread disenchantment with the opposition leaders, Kim Young Sam and Kim Dae Jung, for reneging on a pledge to field a single candidate in the election. It is now apparent that their intense rivalry cost the opposition the race.

Another mitigating factor is the innate conservatism of the people. Most do earnestly wish change, but with the minimum possible fuss. Finally there are the 1988 Olympic games, due to be held in Seoul in September. Irrespective of their political differences, most South Koreans wish to safeguard this prestige event as a step towards a cherished place among the elite group of fully industrialized nations.

Roh will have to attend quickly to demands from farmers and notoriously underpaid blue-collar workers for an equitable share of the country's increasing affluence. Han Sung Joo, a professor of political science at Korea University in Seoul believes democracy will make the government more susceptible to domestic pressures.

"There will obviously be labour problems," he said. "We may see protectionist measures, particularly for agricultural products. The government will probably have greater difficulty in balancing the budget, and controlling inflation."

A more insidious problem is that of chronic regional antagonism, particularly between the southern provinces of Kyongsang and Cholla. Roh comes from Kyongsang, an affluent and industrially flourishing area in comparison with its essentially rural neighbour, which is the political fiefdom of Kim Dae Jung.

An inherent weakness in Roh's administration is the simple fact that a majority voted for his opponents. He will therefore have to come to terms with the opposition, if possible before National Assembly elections due to be held either before or shortly after he assumes office.

So far the signs are not encouraging. Within hours of appealing for unity to implement his democratic reforms, Roh was met with a barrage of hostility from both Kims. The abiding rivalry between the erstwhile allies adds to Roh's difficulties in reaching a compromise with them.

With his military background and new-found commitment to democracy, Roh has appeared, like the Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat at the United Nations in the 1970s, bearing a gun in one hand and an olive branch in the other. The fate of his country will depend upon whether the latter is accepted by its people.

ALL MERCHANDISE IS SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY. SOME LINES ARE PAID



1 Pennington Street, London, E1 9XN Telephone: 01-481-4100

DIVIDE - AND WIN

The results of Wednesday's presidential elections in South Korea, which give Mr Roh Tae Woo victory by nine per cent of the vote, offer the worst of several possible worlds. Mr Roh's victory is not so convincing that he can be hailed the outright winner. Two of the other three contestants, Mr Kim Young Sam and Mr Kim Dae Jung, each came within 10 percentage points of his vote. If they had joined forces, victory would probably have been theirs. Their frustration now will be all the greater.

Nor is the margin of Mr Roh's victory so narrow that his opponents can immediately cry foul. According to those who estimate such things, it is wide enough for any manipulation by Mr Roh or his supporters - of which there has undoubtedly been some - not to have altered the overall result. On yesterday's figures, Mr Roh would have won anyway, even though his total vote may have been artificially enhanced.

The relative large share of the vote taken by the two main opposition candidates (nearly 60 per cent) is also likely to unsettle South Korea's influential military leaders. They may be tempted to view the anti-Roh opposition as potentially stronger than, because of its divisions, it is. Conversely, they may regard Mr Roh Tae Woo as a weaker leader than, as an almost-democratically elected president, he really is. Either interpretation might incline them to be less supportive of Mr Roh or more dominating than the present volatile political situation in South Korea would require.

After so unsatisfactory a result, there are bound to be both regrets and recriminations. Those who favour a strong leadership and hanker after the military rule of the past will regret that President Chun Doo Hwan was pressured into stepping down and holding elections at all. What price democracy, they will argue, if the results are so unsatisfactory? Supporters of one Kim will blame the other Kim for not subordinating self-interest to the common cause of ousting President Chun's designated successor.

Paradoxically, the opposition is now united in defeat and determined once again to overthrow the regime. The result is that

professed democrats - as both Kims are - have scorned the outcome of an election which is the closest South Koreans have been allowed to come to taking part in a democratic process. Kim Dae Jung, leader of the Peace and Democratic Party, is now ensconced in the southern city of Kwangju issuing distinctly undemocratic statements and inciting violence in an attempt to overthrow by force a leader he could not defeat at the ballot box.

The chief prize for the election victor is the Olympic Games which are due to be held in Seoul next summer. Preparations are already well in hand for a grand event which is designed to be a symbol of South Korea's viability as a country, and a summation of its achievements since the division of Korea 34 years ago. The imminence of the Games raises the stakes for the opposition, which will exploit existing discontent to destabilize the government and so discourage foreign participation. The agitation has already begun.

Unsatisfactory though the election result and its aftermath are likely to be, the longer-term outlook is not hopeless, if the present unrest can be contained without the use of excessive force. Despite the complaints of the opposition candidates, mostly the voting passed off peacefully. South Korea now has an elected civilian leader, but not one whose policies would of themselves estrange the military and provoke a coup. As a step away from military rule, that is an achievement and offers a chance of stability.

In the end, stability may be more important for South Korea - and for the world - than a precipitate slide into unstable democracy. Positioned where the political East meets the political West, holding the frontline against an unpredictable and belligerent power in Pyongyang to the north, South Korea is a crucial element in the West's defences. As superpower attention shifts to the Pacific, as it has started to do, a stable pro-Western South Korea becomes even more desirable. Seoul's first tentative step towards the sort of democracy which is a condition of political stability should not yet be written off as a failure.

LAW LORDS TO THE RESCUE

The law lords have restored to the Home Secretary the right to deport six Tamils from Sri Lanka who had applied for refugee status in this country. With a further 6,500 said to be filing similar claims for political asylum, the ruling has important implications.

It overturns the eccentric judgment in the Court of Appeal two months ago, which altered the definition of "refugee". According to the United Nations convention on the subject, a refugee is someone with a "well-founded" fear of persecution in his country, suggesting that some third-party assessment of his claim has to be made. But Sir John Donaldson in the Court of Appeal allowed the six Tamils' appeal against deportation. He ruled that fear of persecution need be only subjective. As long as he felt afraid himself, a man's claim to refugee status was permissible, however groundless such fears might seem to other people.

This did not automatically entitle the claimant to permanent residence in Britain. But it threatened to open the floodgates to those seeking temporary asylum. According to one estimate, the number of claims for sanctuary could have risen from 4,000 in 1986 to about 100,000. And it would be naive to suppose that many would ever return.

As a legal interpretation of the UN convention, it was capricious. As a policy for this or future Home Secretaries to pursue, it was unacceptable. In respect of the Indian sub-continent in general and Sri Lanka in particular, it posed a problem with which this country could not cope. By returning the burden of proof to the claimant himself, the law lords have rescued the Government from a ridiculous and quite unjustifiable plight.

This country has a long and proud tradition of giving shelter and help to refugees - and

long must this continue to be so. But the abuse of that precious right by those who are seeking no more than financial improvement, can only devalue the term and damage the cause.

There are certainly grounds for supposing that most of those Tamils who arrive here from Sri Lanka, fall into this category. At best their claims require close and sceptical examination. To swing the balance of argument in their favour, might pose such problems that new restrictive legislation might become necessary - to the detriment of genuine refugees.

Sri Lanka is an unhappy island which has experienced more than its share of suffering and bloodshed in recent years. But it is far from being unique in this. Those who have lived through the last two decades in Northern Ireland, could well claim to have suffered no less. Whatever its faults in the past, to accuse the Colombo government of systematic persecution of the Tamils now is to distort the political realities in Sri Lanka.

The days of wholesale migration must be over, for the time being anyway. If all those who wished to move to the United States and Western Europe were allowed to do so unhindered, the effect would be socially, and economically, catastrophic. The inevitable tightening of immigration laws has tempted those seeking entry to resort to other means of doing so - including their arrival as refugees. But this in turn has led to a narrower rather than a wider interpretation of the laws.

The House of Lords judgment does not automatically proscribe the entry of refugees, from Sri Lanka or anywhere else. But it does allow the Home Secretary to make decisions which are based on common sense as well as humanity. He should do so in this case.

IN DEFENCE OF YUPPIES

It is fashionable to disparage yuppies (the acronym has a disputed origin, meaning either young urban professionals or young upwardly mobile professionals). They are supposed to be the representatives of Thatcherism at its worst - materialistic, greedy, devoid of social conscience. The example in vogue to bring this point home is that of London's Docklands.

Rich yuppies, it is said, are flooding into luxury houses built on derelict land surrounding the old docks in the East End. In sad contrast, the original local inhabitants are neglected in their council flats - bitterly resenting the arrival of their new neighbours. But Docklands, as defined by the boundaries of the London Docklands Development Corporation, is an enormous area, some eight miles square. Property prices in its most fashionable parts, such as the Isle of Dogs, have indeed risen phenomenally since the Docklands project began in 1981. But in the less glamorous areas, such as the Surrey Docks on the south bank and the Royal Docks further east, house prices are average, or less than prices in London as a whole.

It is not true that local people have been left out. Of 7,000 new houses and flats built in Docklands so far, 3,000 have gone to local people. Two thousand of these were sold to people. Two thousand to be let. A further 1,000 have been earmarked for locals to rent at controlled levels, or for shared ownership schemes run by housing associations.

In the private sector part of Docklands housing, residents stand to make a great deal of money through having invested early on. Why not? At the outset, the Docklands scheme was a risky venture, regarded with suspicion by financial institutions and estate agents alike. That it has become a wild success is at least partly due to the faith of pioneer yuppies who were prepared both to take the risk that their investment would pay off, and to live in an area still lacking basic amenities.

Elsewhere in London the arrival of yuppies has had an equally improving effect on the standing and general environment of rundown areas. The quickest way to end dereliction in inner city suburbs is to send in a legion of yuppies - Fulham, Battersea, Stoke Newington, and Lambeth prove it.

Yuppies create wealth, not just for themselves in the City, but for the local people among whom they live. This means a bigger gross domestic product and more public money available for expenditure on the old, the sick, and the unemployed. Yet few have a good word to say about yuppies.

In part this probably is to do with the English tradition of regarding people who make money as vulgar, particularly if they choose to display their wealth. But it is also a hangover from the Seventies, that era of "alternative lifestyles", where the fashionable emphasis was on lack of obvious worldly goods, on self-sufficiency, and on the adoption of the sartorial style of Third World peasants. Yet who is contributing more to the good of society? The inhabitant of the Seventies alternative society, with his ostentatiously-displayed social conscience and equally ostentatious, "modest" way of life, or the yuppie with his Porsche, his Filofax, and his large tax bill?

Another good thing about yuppies is that anyone can join. You do not need to come from a particular background or to have had an elaborate education - or any education at all. The necessary qualities are initiative, drive, and the willingness to work hard and seize opportunities where they occur.

As for young Cockneys in the East End tower blocks overlooking Docklands, the message to them should be clear. Don't resent your yuppie neighbours; join them. Not that they need telling. Very many of them have already done so. If there is anything more encouraging than a yuppie, it is a cockney yuppie.

Ills within the health service

From Dr Max Gammon
Sir, The recent statement on the NHS by the presidents of the royal colleges (report, December 15) has been widely reported as unprecedented. This is not the case. A similar statement was issued by the presidents of the royal colleges and deans of medical faculties in October, 1974. The 1974 statement included these words:

The ills within the NHS are serious and by threatening standards threaten the health and well-being of the community. There is a real danger of standards deteriorating to a point from which recovery will be impossible within a foreseeable term.

The problems in the NHS arise out of bed losses, which have been occurring at an increasing rate every year since 1959, irrespective of increases in finance and manpower and irrespective of attempts at reorganization.

These losses have now reduced the total number of NHS beds available to just under seven per thousand of the population, compared with an average for Europe as a whole of just over nine per thousand and 11 per thousand in Britain at the inception of the NHS in 1948.

Yours faithfully,
MAX GAMMON,
St Michael's Organization,
92 Southway Park Road, SE16,
December 15.

From Mr David Eckley
Sir, The management side of the NHS recently proposed the standardisation of special duty payments at a basic rate of £1.40 per hour, irrespective of the grade of the nurse. These special duty payments are made for working unsocial hours - nights, weekends and bank holidays.

The current system offers nurses a fair financial reward for working unsocial hours. The proposed standardisation of special duty payments will result in nurses being unwilling to work unsocial hours and will lead to the inflexibility in work patterns that management is so keen to avoid.

The money saved by the proposal (if it is implemented) will no doubt go to pay for the new clinical grading structure. This would clearly be robbing Jane to pay Jenny. No group of workers would tolerate this and neither will Jane, Jenny and all their nurse colleagues!

Yours faithfully,
DAVID ECKLEY,
Intensive Care Unit,
County Hospital,
Hereford,
December 14.

Lure to engineers

From the Director General of the Engineering Council
Sir, There is no reason for external examiner Dr Colin Boswell (December 15) to be astonished at the number of engineering finalists wanting to join firms of accountancy. The very discipline of engineering equips the individual with a useful clarity of thought and judgement for a wide variety of fields.

The Engineering Council does believe, however, that the young engineering graduates should complete their education, training and responsible experience, thus qualifying as chartered engineers before launching out into these other fields. We have an impressive roll call of chairmen and managing directors of industrial companies who are chartered engineers. An increasing number of vice-chancellors are also engineers.

The Engineering Council would like to see many more engineers in Parliament, the Civil Service and the media, not only to dispel any

From Mr Robin Beare
Sir, Of course the NHS is short of money. It always has been and always will be, like any employer with no end-product for sale.

There is much talk of additional funding, but little mention has been made of those other factors which, together with financial cuts, have reduced morale among hospital staff to an all-time low.

The day when morale began to decline can be pin-pointed with precision by the older generation of consultants and nurses. It was the day when house committees and boards of governors were abolished; when matrons and ward sisters disappeared; to be replaced by "nursing officers" of various ranks; and when the administration of quite large hospitals was thrust, overnight, into the hands of an individual "administrator" who, almost without exception, lacked any medical training.

It was rather like asking a layman to captain a ship.

Thence there evolved a career-structure in "hospital administration", which landed the hospital service with a surplus of these people, a bold reduction in their numbers would surely be of more benefit to patients than closing hospital beds or operating theatres.

Yours truly,
ROBIN BEARE,
149 Harley Street, W1.

From Dr E. J. Fairlie
Sir, Achieving a Balance, the document recently issued by the UK health departments, proposes an agreement between them, the royal colleges and the regional health authorities which is far from satisfactory.

Some 1,450 key registrar posts, approved by the royal colleges as suitable to qualify postgraduate diplomas, are to be reserved for "visiting" overseas doctors, who are expected to return to their countries of origin on completion of training. The discrimination against UK doctors holding these appointments is to be legally covered by section 36 of the Race Relations Act 1976.

The use of the NHS for providing practical clinical experience for overseas doctors is a noble purpose. But no service can be expected to function efficiently with such a disproportionate number of doctors in training who will eventually practise overseas.

Yours faithfully,
E. J. FAIRLIE,
Cloverlea,
Strathkiness High Road,
St Andrews, Fife.

outdated thought that engineers languish on the night shift at Scunthorpe, but to bring to the policy thinking of the country an understanding and appreciation of the contribution that engineering makes to the wealth of the nation in this highly technological age.

Yes, we do believe in market forces, but young people choose their career not only because of the expected salary, but the intrinsic interest of the work and the longer term career prospects. I believe that the young are much influenced by the role models they see of young professional people some 10 years older than themselves who are already launched on a career. First-class role models attract first-class people.

This slow time response system can become an upward spiral. I believe this is now happening to the engineering profession.

Yours sincerely,
KENNETH MILLER,
Director General,
The Engineering Council,
10 Maltravers Street, WC2,
December 15.

and rigours of academic or hospital departments in this country to take a general holiday in south-east Asia whilst occasionally "teaching the trainees" seems to be a junket which could well be sacrificed. Resources so saved could be transferred to enable postgraduate medical exchanges with countries where the intellectual and cultural dialogue would be much more beneficial and widespread.

Yours faithfully,
J. N. HARCOURT-WEBSTER,
41 Shortlands Road,
Bromley, Kent.

VAT on books

From Sir Robert Lusty
Sir, The fears of Mr Coward (December 15) of the impact of VAT on books have powerful relevance. But the impact of such an imposition on the book trade is surely almost insignificant in contrast with the dereliction it would bring to a principle which has been one of the proudest achievements of our heritage, which was sustained during even the darkest days of Hitler's war.

Our educational literacy today is not all that creditable, but never surely in our whole history has the reading of the printed word acquired so imperative an importance. Nothing can take its place.

The prospect of the threatened bedlam in our homes of the spoken word and easily assimilated picture readers ever more important the quiet of personal reflection which only reading can give. This surely is an imperative to which every encouragement should be given and no barrier whatever should impede.

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT LUSTY,
Broad Close, Blockley,
Moreton-in-Marsh,
Gloucestershire,
December 12.

Confronting change in the Church

From the Bishop Suffragan of Doncaster
Sir, I share the distress of many members of the Church of England over the tragic death of Dr Gary Bennett.

I had considerable respect for him as a man, as a scholar with an excellent mind, and as an example of a particular tradition of spirituality and holiness. And, if I may dare say so, like him I have reservations about the appropriateness of the ordination of women to the priesthood.

Having said that, I also have a very considerable respect for our archbishops and wish that the element of personal criticism in *Crockford's* preface was missing. The Archbishop of Canterbury provides us with an open and sensitive leadership which is widely appreciated. The Archbishop of York has a formidable capacity for analysis and clear thinking and great skill in helping the Christian community to think and work together.

It is always a temptation in circumstances of the present kind to look for someone to blame and I do not think your recent leader (December 14) avoided that temptation. I hope that Dr Runcie will continue to give his leadership within the Church of England and in the Anglican Communion for a good time yet. I hope, however, that he will do so for one substantial reason only - that he is fulfilling his God-given responsibility.

The real problem which Dr Bennett's tragic death has highlighted is the perennial problem of any institution or community, the handling of change. When major changes are contemplated it is understandable, and much easier, if we focus on personalities and ignore some of the highly complex current-currents of thought and practice which affect the Church. I hope that we shall stop looking for scapegoats. It is far more important to address ourselves to the issues.

Yours faithfully,
WILLIAM DONCASTER,
Bishop's Lodge,
Hooton Roberts,
Rotherham, South Yorkshire,
December 15.

Archbishop replies
From the Archbishop of York
Sir, The treatment given to some of my recent statements by the media has made me aware of a phenomenon which it might be useful to label "adjectival detachment". Adjectives in reported statements become detached from their nouns and are allowed to float freely, often then attaching themselves to whatever noun suits a reporter's or editor's purposes.

Let me give a personal example before it becomes indelibly imprinted in the mythology of last week's tragic events. I am widely reported as having described Dr Bennett's *Crockford* preface as "scurrilous". I said no such thing.

In fact I acknowledged explicitly that the preface pinpoints some real problems but, as I suppose was to be expected, this part of my statement received scant coverage. The noun to which I attached the adjective "scurrilous" was "charges", and it clearly referred to the accusations of conspiracy and lack of integrity against the Archbishop of Canterbury. These formed only a small part of the total preface, but they were the part on which media interest was at the time almost entirely concentrated. The shift of noun in my reported remarks changed my whole meaning.

May we hope that adjectival detachment will be recognized as a dangerous journalistic disease and receive prompt treatment?

Yours faithfully,
JOHN EBOR,
Bishopthorpe, York,
December 14.

A coarsening process

From Mr Robert Jackson, MP for Warrington (Conservative)
Sir, Bitter reflections came to mind at Dr Bennett's funeral service, listening to Durand's Requiem punctuated by the clicking of camera lenses from the organ loft. True, it was unworthy of Dr Bennett not to have anticipated the reactions to his anonymous preface. But was that his fault, or the world's?

The preface itself is an intensely serious diagnosis of the decay of the Church of England, exhibiting transparent qualities of intelligence, integrity, and commitment. All of us should deplore the coarsening of public discourse which is reflected in the responses it evoked. Between the paparazzi and the prelates its author's light was extinguished.

Meanwhile, the argument of the preface deserves wide attention and deep thought. Can this country - we in Parliament - view with detachment, amounting to indifference, the disintegration of the Anglican Church which it describes: the crumbling of an institution which has been so central to our existence as a nation, and to England's witness in the world? Dr Bennett's death invites us all to reflect most earnestly on the testament he leaves behind.

Yours sincerely,
ROBERT JACKSON,
House of Commons,
December 15.

From Mr E. P. Wilson
Sir, Sir Anthony Grant (December 12) is right to draw attention to the incongruity between the Dean of Christ Church's praise of the Church of England's "comprehensive liberality" and, in his seeking to suppress the *Crockford's* preface, his intolerance of its diversity.

Such incongruity should not, however, surprise. Long ago, Dr Johnson, in his *Life of Milton*, wrote: "It has been observed that they who most loudly clamour for liberty do not most liberally grant it."

Yours faithfully,
E. P. WILSON,
Worcester College, Oxford,
December 12.

A handicap

From Mr D. B. Jenkin
Sir, I have recently acquired a woolly bat to protect me while I am walking the dog. Unfortunately, I have not discovered the correct behaviour for greeting a lady when wearing this type of headgear.

If it is removed, I have to use both hands when replacing it and this is difficult if the dog is on the lead. My hat does not have a peak which can be lifted and saluting might be considered pretentious from someone who was demobilised over 40 years ago.

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30 Hare Hill Close,
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This is substantially what Mr. Roosevelt will propose to the new Congress in his Inaugural Message on January 3. The scheme, he reminded his hearers, "must be worked out in London, too," and was now under study.

ON THIS DAY

DECEMBER 18 1940

President Roosevelt first made public at a Washington press conference the idea of "lease-lend" which subsequently did much to buttress the British war effort

LEASING ARMS TO BRITAIN

MR. ROOSEVELT'S NEW PLAN

FINANCIAL "NONSENSE"

From Our Own Correspondent

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17

President Roosevelt, at his Press conference this afternoon, asserted and suggested means of applying the principle emergent from the present situation of world affairs - that the best defence of the United States is the success of Britain in defending itself. The overwhelming number of Americans believed this, he said, and therefore, apart from their historic and current interest in the preservation of democracy, felt that there was a legitimate selfish interest in helping Britain.

He spoke next of the nonsense talked by traditionalists who thought in financial terms. "No major war ever had been won or lost for lack of money," he said, recalling the bankers' predictions made in 1914 as to the brief duration of that struggle. To-day there were plenty of other ways than the merely traditional.

We must go back, he continued, to one thing - the necessity for additional production facilities, for the "more we produce the stronger we are." Orders from Britain were a tremendous asset to American defence, because they increased these facilities, and here, again, purely selfish interest emerged.

SUGGESTED "GIFTS"

Some "of the banal type mind" had talked of the repeal of or changes in the Johnson Neutrality Acts permitting the lending of money to be spent in the United States either by bankers or from Government to Government. Others suggested gifts, "and we may come to it yet," but he did not think it necessary or that British amour propre would like the idea. There were other ways, and they were being explored now - ways to continue building up their own facilities and continue the flow of munitions to Britain.

It was possible, the President went on, for the United States to take over British orders, and, because they represented essentially the same kind of products needed here, turn them into American orders. And then, as the future might determine, the material produced might either be leased to Britain or sold subject to mortgage. Behind this lay the theory that the best defence of Britain was also the best defence of the United States, which made the materials more valuable in use than if "kept in storage here."

"We want to get rid of the dollar sign," said Mr. Roosevelt, and substitute for it a gentleman's agreement. He gave homely illustrations of what he meant, and when a series of questions touched on the possible effect on America's position he replied that the method he suggested could not take the country farther into war than it was now. He added that the war did not come for "legal" reasons, and the things he suggested would not be a greater danger to the United States than existed already.

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FRIDAY PAGE

A few miles from Cleveland, Gitta Sereny finds hope in the child abuse battle

Breaking the cycle

● Yesterday, while the Cleveland inquiry was hearing its final witness, we told the story of Lucy, the little girl for whom sexual abuse was not an esoteric theoretical debate but a terrible reality.

● Lucy was in one respect fortunate: she lived in Newcastle upon Tyne, a few miles from Cleveland but a world away in its methods of treatment.

● In Newcastle, bitter competition between agencies gives way to what the jargon calls a "multi-disciplinary approach", meaning that the police, social workers, doctors, magistrates and the NSPCC co-operate with each other in an alliance whose main concern is to protect children.

● The Times visited Newcastle to see how this alliance tackles its most formidable problem: the cycle that leads to the abused becoming the abuser, and which can sometimes only be broken by the most drastic action — the removal of a child from its family.

Part 2: Taken into care

Brian Roycroft is frank. "We do not know," says the director of social services for Newcastle upon Tyne, "what the incidence of child sexual abuse is. There are no firm statistics kept at national or local level, and such as are kept by some national organizations are suspect."

Roycroft — whose department has developed a multi-disciplinary approach to the treatment of abused children in collaboration with the police and the NSPCC — is also president of the Association of Directors of Social Services. Last week he told the Cleveland child sexual abuse inquiry of the findings of a special survey commissioned by the ADSS, in which the evidence from 100 authorities appeared to indicate "a huge increase" in general child abuse referrals — more suggestive, perhaps, of the increase in both public awareness and detection skills in recent years.

"The statistics for child sexual abuse," Roycroft says, "are likely to be even more inaccurate. The criteria are unclear, and there are large grey areas."

Until two or three years ago, Joyce Eyeington hardly gave a thought to sexual abuse. She runs Newcastle's residential family centre, where up to seven families in trouble undergo testing and treatment lasting a year or more. "We certainly didn't look for it," she says. "Now we do, and we realize in retrospect that it could have been a factor in many cases."

Outwardly indistinguishable from the neighbouring buildings in Ryehill, a working class area of the city, the establishment also contains a day centre and nursery school. Its one- and two-bedroom flats are pleasant, each with its own bath and kitchen. The families have breakfast and tea separately; the main meal is taken together. Most of the children are under five: in this sheltered housing, young parents with all kinds of inadequacies are being taught to grow up.

What Joyce Eyeington and her colleagues already know is the repetitive character of child sexual abuse: the abused later becoming the abuser. "That is our main objective," Joyce Eyeington says, "breaking the cycle."

John Clarke is aged 34; his wife Mary is 26. They lived together for three years before getting married in 1986. They have two children — Jeannie, aged four, and Fergus, not yet one, who was born while they were living at the centre.

Mary, the only child of an unmarried mother, is not unattractive, but her body is flabby; her hair, though clean, is stringy and dull. The only strong thing about her, oddly enough, is her voice; which, on the rare occasions when she suddenly speaks up, or, after

long thought, answers a question, is clear and succinct, with a musical Georgian accent.

From the age of 12, she was sexually abused by both her father and her mother. She told no one until after her father died, when she was 15. "He was dead, so they couldn't do nothing to him," she said. "They thought it didn't matter, didn't they?"

John is tall, slim, handsome and speaks well, his nervousness only apparent by the sweat on his face. The eldest of a railway worker's six children, he was sexually abused by his mother from the age of 14; when he was 21, he began to have sex with his sister.

By that time he too was working on the railway, training to become a guard. But he began to drink, and in 1976 he

motivation, and evidence of definite progress would be needed before they could return home.

John and Mary were co-operative, doing whatever "tasks" they were given in the course of the treatment, which consists of training in home and child care, and individual and family therapy. The parents are helped to enhance their self-image, and to understand child behaviour and development. They are shown how to divide up their duties as parents and how to express parental affection in an appropriate fashion, and are taught ways of coping more effectively with stress. As for the children, every facet of their behaviour — from meal and bath times through play and sleep to toilet training — is closely monitored.

The Clarks kept their little flat clean, were fairly good about handing in the rent everyone pays, and rarely stayed out beyond the time agreed with the staff who baby-sat for them. The only rule that Mary protested against, time and again, was about being forbidden to take

According to the Newcastle paediatricians, it is unlikely to occur because of threats or constipation, and often turns out to be part of the picture of sexual abuse. "Of course, it isn't decisive in isolation," says Dr Hans Steiner, a consultant paediatrician at Newcastle General Hospital's family unit, where families with psychological problems are admitted for assessment.

Unless the child specifically objects, the mother should be present at a medical. "But in this you always follow the child," Dr Steiner says. "And no intimate examination should ever be forced upon a child. If necessary, there is always the option of a light anaesthetic." The medical should always begin at the top. "All children are familiar with having their ears, throat, glands and tummy examined, so that is reassuring. Only after that should one go further — I like to finish off the examination with the toes."

Little Fergus Clarke hadn't been constipated, as his mother had claimed. He was taken into care, and a few days later Mary Clarke admitted what she had been doing.

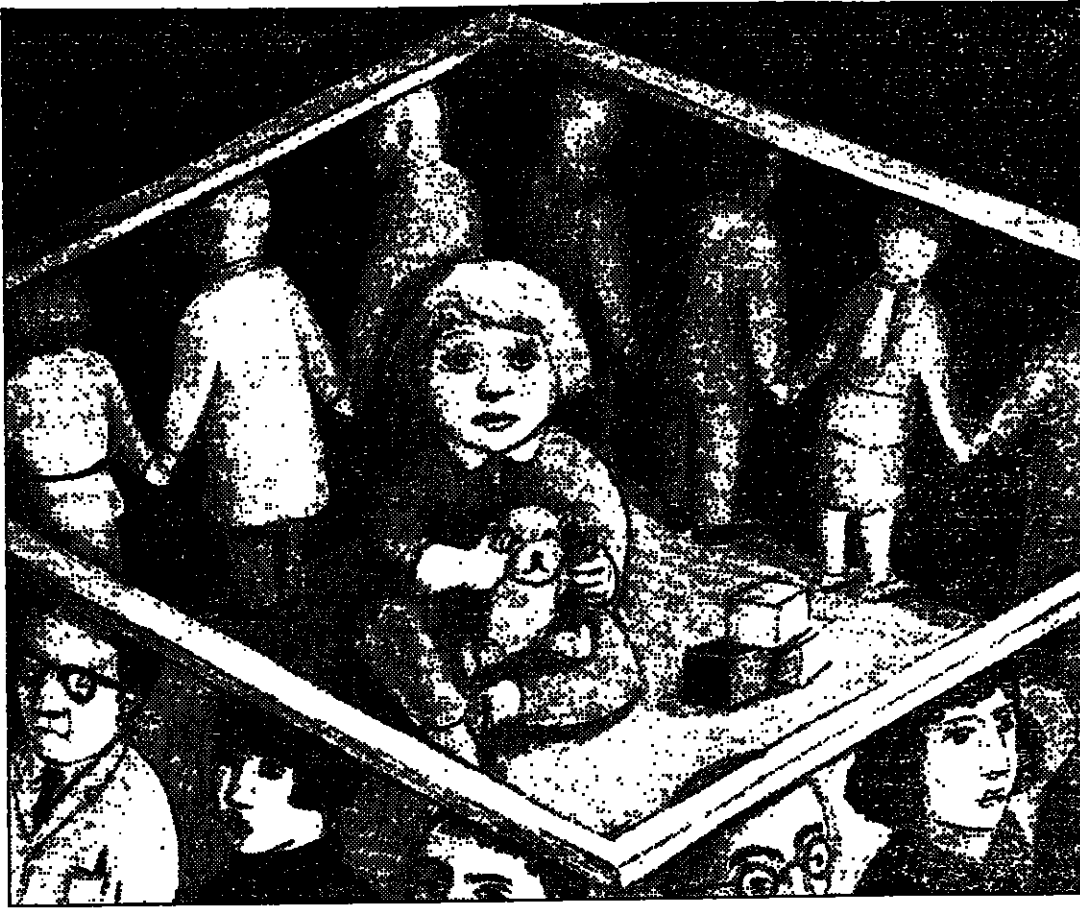
"We understood then that although we had seen no evidence, something of the sort must have happened all along with Jeannie, too," Joyce Eyeington says. "It was all very sad, but it was decided to have both children adopted."

In quite a large percentage of cases it is necessary to remove the children — "the most difficult decision social workers have to make," according to both Brian Roycroft and Joyce Eyeington. Out of 127 families admitted to the family centre since it opened in 1980, 40 have been finally separated from their children. And 20 per cent of the families assessed with the children assessed with the families at the Newcastle Hospital family unit immediately go into foster care, plus, eventually, a third of the others.

"Jeannie and Fergus are being adopted by one family," Joyce Eyeington says optimistically. They are now safe; they are young enough to forget, and have been helped quickly enough to give them a good chance of forgetting. In this case, in this community, the parents will continue to receive help in a climate of confidence. But when, as happens much more often, the action taken is merely cosmetic, or — worse — punitive, then it cannot touch the source of the problem.

John and Mary had been on their own for two weeks by the time I met them. They will soon leave Ryehill and go into a flat. "It's going to be nice," said John, and he showed me a photograph of Jeannie. What did Mary like best to do? "Be with him," she said, pointing

Wendy Hollis



Last Wednesday was the final programme in Channel 4's series *All in a Day's Life*. For five weeks this programme has shown us the lives of a dozen or so people at work and play in Slough. "Some of us live to work," intoned an unseen voice very solemnly at the beginning of each programme, "others work to live. But does leisure time have any meaning if we don't have a job?"

Perhaps it was this bit of pomposity that put me in such a bad temper. I have always felt that anyone who uses the phrase "leisure time" has too much of it. In fact, not one person I have ever met of value, including people who are unemployed, has ever had a problem filling their "leisure" time. They may have had all sorts of other ghastly troubles but never a shortage of interests.

My own interest was sparked by the light the programme threw on voluntary unemployment. Warren Carter, aged 21, explained why he preferred drawing the dole to a salary. "I wouldn't mind a job where I felt I was doing something useful," he said. But "working at Ford's, working at a Mars Bar factory, producing stuff that is no good for us, I don't want to do



BARBARA AMIEL

friendly man at Bridging the Gap, and that if you had some practical experience. The engineer interrupted him. "I have got experience," he said. "I mean I've been taught how to use computers and all that stuff." That silenced the Gap Bridger. Still, it seemed clear the engineer was dead set on getting a job commensurate with his "qualifications" rather than just getting a job.

It all rather illustrated political scientist Ernest van der Haag's point that this society has created a market for unemployment. If supplementary benefits aren't really tied to anything more than, say, an orange-haired greenie's need to protect rain-forests, then one does create a supply of people ready to be unemployed. In one sense, I rejoice in belonging to a society that is so generous that this extraordinary condition can exist. The trouble, of course, is that the funds to support Warren Carter are even more finite than his rain forests.

But clearly the series' producers did not quite share my admiration of our flexible society, ready to accommodate virtually any set of domestic conditions. The general sensibility of the programmes seemed more accurately summed up by the dairy farmer who remarked that if it was a question of writing a report or shovelling slurry, "there's no question which I'd rather be doing."

The repetitive shots of motorway congestion and a seemingly endless sequence of City men eating at a posh restaurant juxtaposed to the frightful-looking plates of stodge being ladled out in a cottage hospital made it all very clear: 20th-century urban

life is a dehumanizing rat race in which the rich eat smoked salmon and the elderly and poor get shuttled off to cottage hospitals whose grants are then cut.

This led me to muse on recent complaints that BBC television is leftist, or at least hostile to traditional values. Last week the Adam Smith Society came out with a paper suggesting privatization of the BBC, but that doesn't seem to be much of a solution. This series was on Channel 4 which is, after all, a member of the IBA, and one only has to look at the privately owned American networks to see how entrenched the left has become. At least with the publicly owned BBC one can still enjoy superb cultural programming which a profit-orientated private network might not do.

The problem seems to be that the entire world of television is a barometer of intellectual fashion. Telly people are Zeitgeist people and they will follow the fashion like flocking birds. For years the fashion was left of centre and changing it is a very slow business — even more difficult in a quasi-Government organization like the BBC.

After all, what better atmosphere for that marginally

We have created a market for unemployment

something like that. I think I'd kill myself or become a total alcoholic."

I was quite taken by these comments. Orange-haired Warren was so *au fait*. Work had to be "useful". Despair would drive him not to drink but to "alcoholism". The only off-note was his interest in preserving tropical rain forests, which, he says, are being destroyed by American multinationals. This, I think, was very much last year's cause.

The other unemployed chap in the series was a 25-year-old qualified engineer who had been out of work for three years. It was difficult to tell why he was unemployed, although there was a moment when it seemed we might have stumbled on the answer. "I wonder whether the qualifications you have are almost qualifications for qualifications' sake," asked the

Telly people will follow the fashion like flocking birds

creative person, the cultural bureaucrat, who straddles the line between Civil Servant and artist, than the atmosphere of Auntie? It is there they can sit through endless committee meetings and then retreat to offices to gossip, back-stab and spend more time plotting their next memo than their next programme.

What to do? Well, deep breathing helps. I watched a programme on Channel 4 all about the marvels of the Soviet client-state Angola. I got quite purple in the face after a bit and it wasn't until the credits rolled by that I saw, almost subliminally, that the film was a co-production with the government of Angola. *Zeitgeist*, *Zeitgeist*, I muttered to myself and turned with relief to the BBC's vistas of a green and pleasant land. It was the Midland Bank World Indoor Bowls.

'If we merely respond to horror with horror, then it is impossible to develop trust'

was sacked for drinking on the job; about the same time, his aunt told the police what he was doing with his sister.

He was sentenced to three years, and has been unemployed since he came out of prison. When he and Mary began to live together, they had a council flat and saw both their families as little as possible. They muddled along for several years, until coming to the attention of the Newcastle social services when Jeannie behaved conspicuously at nursery school; soon afterwards they came into the family centre.

Joyce Eyeington says that Jeannie was "a very difficult little girl. She could hardly speak, take part in activities, paint or play. What she did do was acting out provocative and suggestive poses and movements."

At Ryehill, parents are under close observation. The centre's team leader, Graham Forster, told John and Mary that they would be expected to live as a family, just as they would in their own home, and that the staff would make every attempt to give them as much privacy as possible.

However, they would be watched constantly for any sign of "inappropriate behaviour", they would be required to show 100 per cent

Jeannie into the bath with her. "Why not?" she would cry. "She always bathed with us, didn't she?"

Soon after they arrived, Mary was found to be pregnant again. "We never saw her do anything to Jeannie, ever," says Joyce Eyeington, "but by the time Fergus arrived we had decided that Jeannie must go into foster care: she was just too unhappy — something else had to be tried." Jeannie showed considerable improvement "fairly quickly" and her parents, busy with the new baby, didn't seem to miss her excessively.

It was when Fergus was about six months old that the decision was made to let Mary manage him alone at bath-time. "We just have to take risks, you see," Joyce Eyeington says, sounding unhappy, and he passed the daily checks well until about 10 days later. "He was crying when we changed his nappy — Mary said he'd been constipated. He was red..."

Abnormalities consistent with sexual abuse are perhaps less ambiguous than the disclosures from Cleveland have indicated. The reflex anal dilatation phenomenon, the subject of so much controversy in the Cleveland cases, has been part of the routine examination for sexual abuse for some time.

Support for new mothers

From Mrs Clare Delpech, The Association for Post-Natal Illness, 7 Gowan Avenue, London SW6

In your Health Page article on post-natal depression (Birth of the Blues, December 3) you said: "Fortunately it is only about one new mother in 1,000 who develops the chronic lasting depression which can be powerful enough to provoke suicide, infanticide or both..." This is quite wrong. Many of the 10 per cent of mothers who experience post-natal depression may attempt or contemplate suicide. Other depressed mothers live in fear that they may harm their child while their depression lasts.

Your article seems to have confused

TALKBACK

post-natal depression with postnatal psychosis, which presents in a different form and has an incidence of about one in 1,000 mothers. Although post-natal depression is relatively common, it is rarely diagnosed or treated in the early stages. Sufferers need treatment and support, they also need to feel that they are not unusual and that many other women suffer similarly.

In most cases mothers have to become desperately ill before treatment is offered. We support the use of Professor Cox's EPND scale and GPs can obtain copies of the scale from us.

From Richard Mackie, Tanners Street, Faversham, Kent

There is, and always has been, a clear basis for morality (Barbara Amiel: Where Do We Get Our Values Now? December 11). "Hear O Israel, thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart and all thy soul and all thy mind (yes, mind); and thy neighbour as thyself". And a series of similar dicta in many other great religions, I believe. How this works out in practice — lying, killing other people or oneself — isn't always so clear, but I get the impression that clever, loving women are better at that sort of thing than men who tend to want simple "thou shalt" and "thou shalt not".

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TELEVISION AND RADIO

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BBC1

- 6.00 **Cosfax** All.
6.35 **Leat Enrol in Oh Professor**. Behave (b/w). 6.55 **Weather**.
7.00 **Breakfast Time** presented for the last time by Frank Bough who has been in the chair for five years. Includes national and international news at 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30; regional news and travel reports at 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15; weather at 7.25, 7.55 and 8.25.
8.40 **Open Air**. Garmen Holmes hears viewers' comments on yesterday's television programmes. To contribute ring 061-614 0424. 8.55 **Regional news and weather** on film.
9.00 **News and weather** followed by **Neighbours** (t). 9.30 **Kilroy**. Robert Kilroy-Silk chairs a studio discussion with Christmas means to both believers and non-believers.
10.00 **News and weather** followed by **Going for Gold** (t). 10.25 **Children's BBC**. Andy Crane with **Crane's Christmas** and birthday greetings followed by **Play School** (t) and **Paddlington** (t).
10.55 **Live to Eleven**. A reading by Sir Philip 11.00 **News and weather** followed by **Open Air**.
12.00 **News and weather** followed by **Daytime Live**. 12.55 **Regional news and weather** on film.
1.00 **One O'Clock News** with Michael Biech. Weather 1.30 **Neighbours**. Des's party is a success until the guests decide to leave and Simon and Sophie. 1.50 **Play: War and Peace** (1955). Part two of King Victor's version of Tolstoy's classic tale. 3.40 **Ask Harrow**. Margo Macdonald starring David Green, Bronson, Jack Warden and Will Sampson. Western adventure about the legendary Wild Bill Hickok and his obsession with finding and settling upon Tweed, South, Manchester, Scarborough, Powys, Kettering and London.
4.10 **SuperTed** (t). 4.15 **What's All This?** Includes music from Amazulu.
1.15 **Weather**.

BBC2

- 9.00 **Cosfax** 12.30 **Open University**. Animal Psychology 12.55 **Introduction to Information Technology**.
1.30 **Adventure** (t). 1.35 **Pioneers of Photography**. The beginnings of colour photography (t).
2.00 **News and weather** followed by **David Jones**. Sport jumping from the Grand Hall, Olympia; Skiing World Cup action from Ljubljana, Switzerland; Motor Racing: a preview of the weekend's festival at Brands Hatch. Includes news and weather at 3.00 and 3.50.
4.00 **It's My Passion**. George Layton talks to Desmond Lynam about his favourite television memories.
4.30 **International Show** jumping from the Grand Hall, Olympia.
5.30 **Food and Drink** (t).
6.00 **Play: The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes** (1939, b/w) starring Basil Rathbone and Nigel Bruce. After his acquittal on a murder charge Moriarty declares that he will commit the crime of the century and ruin Holmes's reputation. Directed by Alfred Werker.
7.30 **Cartoon Time**. Tingo. 7.50 **Just Answer Day**. John Pimm visits Heathrow (t).
8.00 **The Friday Report**. What next year's more relaxed licensing hours will mean to the people of south-east England.
8.30 **Out of Court** examines the vexed question of unintended security alarm bells.
9.00 **Victoria Wood** - As Seen on TV (b/w).
9.40 **Arrest of Galt and Mice**. Comic strip artist Art Spiegelman discovers his roots and family history in Auschwitz.
10.25 **Shakespeare**. The last of five programmes on the life of Nathan Shtraskernsky.
10.55 **Newsnight** 11.00 **Weather**.
11.45 **Play: La mort en ce jardin** (1956) starring Georges Marchal and Simone Signoret. Drama about a Jewish thief who escapes from a Latin American prison in the company of a motley crew including a prostitute and a compromised priest. Directed by Luis Buñuel. Ends at 1.30.

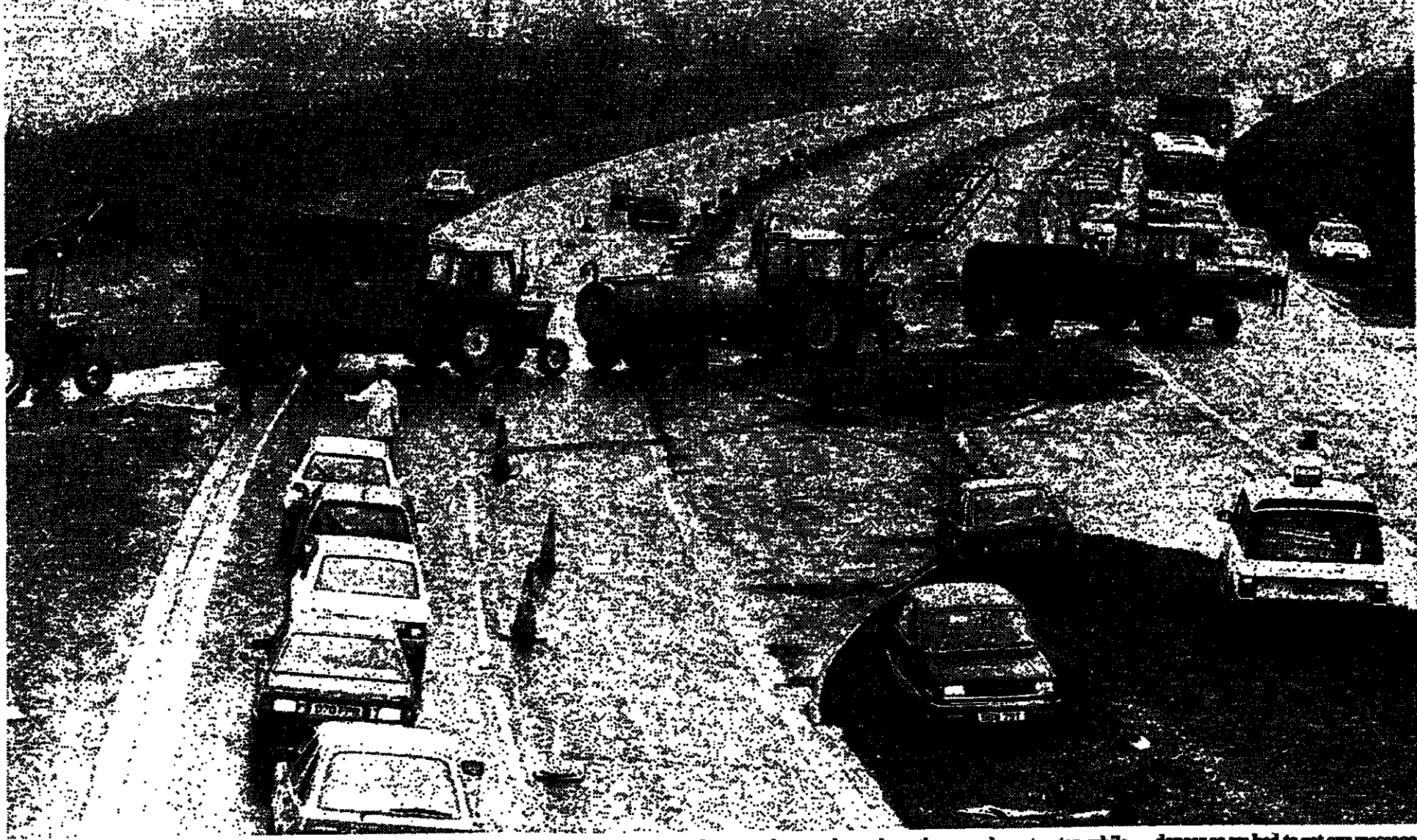
ITV LONDON

- 6.00 **TV-am**. Cartoons, pop music and, between 8.00 and 8.30 **Good Morning Britain**.
9.25 **Thames news headlines**.
9.30 **Buster's Holiday Special** featuring past winners on their holidays of a lifetime abroad. 10.00 **Santa Barbara**. A sun-kissed Californian soap. 10.25 **News headlines**.
10.30 **The Place... The Place... The Place...**. Mike Scott chairs a discussion on compensation discrepancies between drugs and disaster victims on both sides of the Atlantic.
11.10 **Rainbow**. The story of Christmas (t). 11.35 **Thames news headlines**.
11.40 **The 6 O'Clock Show** with the history of the Tyne Theatre and Opera House, Newcastle, and the story of the campaign to restore it to its Victorian glory. 12.00 **News**.
12.30 **News with Julia Somerville**.
1.00 **Play: The Flying Machine** (1965) starring Terry-Thomas, Sarah Miles, James Fox, Eric Sykes and Stuart Whitman. A star-studded comedy about the machinations surrounding a 1910 air race from London to Paris. Directed by Ken Annakin. 1.30 **Thames news headlines**.
1.35 **News**.
4.00 **The Raggy Dolls** (t). 4.10 **The Telegraph** (t). 4.30 **Scooby Doo**. 4.45 **Spooks** looks behind the scenes of the London Palladium cartoon *Spooks in the Wood*.
5.15 **Blockbusters**.
5.45 **News with Fiona Armstrong**.
6.00 **The 6 O'Clock Show** presented by Michael Aspel.
7.00 **The Price is Right**. Game show presented by Leslie Crowther. The audience is comprised of parties from Bank upon Tweed, South, Manchester, Scarborough, Powys, Kettering and London.
12.00 **Business Daily**.
12.30 **Start Here** (t). 1.00 **Sesame Street**.
2.00 **Our Lady's House** (t).
2.15 **Heritage: Civilization and the Jews**. Part eight (t).
3.15 **Movie Museum** (b/w). Includes a 1900 bedroom scene that was thought unsuitable for the eyes and ears of the 1940s. 3.30 **Time to Remember** (b/w). Britain in 1936 (t).
4.00 **News** on 4. Mavis Nicholson. Dr John Rice and Jane Campbell discuss a topical subject.
4.30 **Countdown**.
5.00 **Master Ed** (b/w).
5.30 **Real Christmas Special**. A review of the latest films released on video.
6.15 **Price in Concert** in Detroit (t).
7.00 **Channel 4** news and weather.
7.30 **Bob O'Brien**. Concorc O'Brien reviews Peter Jandira's *My Teacher's Britain*. (Oracle).
8.00 **What the Papers Say** with Angela Gordon of *The Observer*.

CHANNEL 4

- 6.15 **Dispatches: Korea** - Poverty. A report on the urban poor of Seoul who are being forced from their homes to make way for middle-class apartment blocks.
9.00 **The Cosby Show**. American domestic comedy series.
9.30 **Kaleidoscope**. A documentary portrait of the stately Derbyshire home.
10.00 **The Golden Girls**. Comedy series. (Oracle).
10.30 **The Last Resort** with Jonathan Cull. The United States' Michael Palin, Tom Watts and Florence Turner.
11.20 **Assess Yourself**. The final programme of the series on self-awareness training. (Oracle).
12.05 **Tennis: The Davis Cup Final**. The opening singles matches in the game between Sweden and India in Gothenburg.
1.05 **Play: Ladies on the Rocks** (1965) starring Hella Pielke and Antoinette Hejger. Comedy drama about two feminist cabaret artists on tour in provincial Denmark. Directed by Christian Braad Thomsen. English subtitles. Ends at 3.30.
6.00 **North Line** 6.30-7.00 **Extra Time** 10.25 **Newsnight** 11.30 **News** 11.55 **World Service** 12.00 **News** 12.30 **News** 1.00 **News** 1.30 **News** 2.00 **News** 2.30 **News** 3.00 **News** 3.30 **News** 4.00 **News** 4.30 **News** 5.00 **News** 5.30 **News** 6.00 **News** 6.30 **News** 7.00 **News** 7.30 **News** 8.00 **News** 8.30 **News** 9.00 **News** 9.30 **News** 10.00 **News** 10.30 **News** 11.00 **News** 11.30 **News** 12.00 **News** 12.30 **News** 1.00 **News** 1.30 **News** 2.00 **News** 2.30 **News** 3.00 **News** 3.30 **News** 4.00 **News** 4.30 **News** 5.00 **News** 5.30 **News** 6.00 **News** 6.30 **News** 7.00 **News** 7.30 **News** 8.00 **News** 8.30 **News** 9.00 **News** 9.30 **News** 10.00 **News** 10.30 **News** 11.00 **News** 11.30 **News** 12.00 **News** 12.30 **News** 1.00 **News** 1.30 **News** 2.00 **News** 2.30 **News** 3.00 **News** 3.30 **News** 4.00 **News** 4.30 **News** 5.00 **News** 5.30 **News** 6.00 **News** 6.30 **News** 7.00 **News** 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French-style protest comes to Bournemouth



Farmers staged a French-style demonstration against highway planners yesterday. Traffic stretched back for miles on the A338 Bournemouth-Ringwood spur road as they blocked four lanes of the deal carriageway with their tractors. Miss Sylvia Bowditch, of Manor Farm, and Mr Peter Seers, of Holdenhurst Farm, Holdenhurst, Dorset, were protesting against the dangers of using the existing farm crossing which they say they need 80 times a day. It has become a crisis over the last two years, they say, because of the building of a new flyover which is increasing the flow of traffic and has eroded the island where the cows have to stop while crossing the road. "The situation is ludicrous," said Miss Bowditch, "so this is really a protest, although we have to cross here every day. Our herdsman and animals are in real danger so we had to get our message across." The farmers want Dorset council to build them a bridge across the road, but have been told this cannot be done before 1995. Photograph: Peter Trivner

Tyra Henry inquiry report criticizes 'mismanagement'

By Jill Sherman, Social Services Correspondent

The death of Tyra Henry, aged 21 months, at the hands of her father could have been avoided by appropriate action from Lambeth Social Services, according to a report due to be published today.

The 300-page report was produced after two years by an independent inquiry panel, with Mr Stephen Sedley, QC, as chairman. It accuses Lambeth social services of mismanaging the case and Mrs Avon Pailthorpe, the main social worker involved in the case of being "insufficiently professional". Mrs Pailthorpe has since left the council.

The report calls for legislative changes to allow social workers to have access to a parent's past criminal history and says that special legal advisers must be appointed and invited to sit on child care case conferences.

It also calls for an immediate overhaul of Lambeth social services.

The report is the third to examine the circumstances surrounding the death of the girl in September 1984 when she was under the care of Lambeth Council.

She had suffered appalling injuries inflicted by her father, Andrew Neil.

Neil who was jailed for life at the Central Criminal Court two years ago for murder, had a violent history which was known to Lambeth social services. He had been convicted of assaulting his baby son Tyrone, leaving him blind and mentally handicapped.

The girl had been placed on an interim care order 11 days after her birth but in August 1984, the child was dumped at Guy's Hospital, London, with fractured skull, bruises and bites.

The two former reports were unacceptable to the staff and the local branch of Nalco.

The report says: "There needs to be an inter-departmental overhaul in Lambeth of liaison between housing and social services."

However slender the resources and however great the demand, an orderly, well known and accessible procedure for rehousing top priority cases is essential.

The other recommendations include:

- Redesigning forms dealing with child care cases so that "pen pictures" of those involved can be produced;
- Increased training for social workers;
- A computerized system to deal with the workload should be introduced;
- There must be greater contact between social workers and the police, with the police releasing more details.

Last night Lambeth social services accepted the panel's criticism of their handling of the case.

Mr Robin Osmond, director of social services, said: "Undoubtedly there were errors of judgement and mistakes in handling the case. Improvements have been made and will continue to be made". A statement issued by the council last night said that the report's recommendations would be considered with a full response and action plan.

However Mrs Phyllis Dunipace, social services chairman, said that demands on social services were increasing while Government resources were dwindling.



Mr Stephen Sedley, Inquiry spent two years on report.

Prince in aerospace broadside

Continued from page 1

Prince Charles said one of the main problems was communication. "One frequently hears of our failing to give appropriate recognition to the work of engineers. Involving engineers in investment decisions might help solve short-comings."

Lord Shackleton, chairman of the Lords' select committee on science and technology, said last night: "It would indeed be a tragedy to lose the fruits of our inventiveness in the shape of a Prince. It is likely however to require funding on an international basis and could be a European or American-European development."

"Our committee, which has completed its report, will be putting forward some positive ideas which we hope Mr Kenneth Clarke and the Government will take account of."

The report, completed yesterday, will be published next month. It is expected to criticize the lack of a space policy to guide researchers and industrialists.

Mr Clarke, Minister for Trade and Industry, has held talks with British Aerospace and Rolls-Royce. The Department of Trade and Industry said he was waiting for report after the proof-of-concept stage.

Top earners gain bigger pay share

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

Top earners have increased their share of the nation's income under Mrs Thatcher, both before and after tax, new official figures show.

The figures, published yesterday in the Central Statistical Office's *Economic Trends*, show that the richest 10 per cent, those on an average of £19,270 before tax in 1984-85, received nearly 30 per cent of all pre-tax personal income.

The top 10 per cent increased their share of personal income from 26.1 per cent in 1978-79, the last tax year under Labour, to 29.5 per cent in 1984-85. After tax, the share rose from 23.4 per cent to 26.5 per cent.

The top 1 per cent of earners, those on an average of £48,210 a year in 1984-85, raised their share of pre-tax income from 5.3 to 6.4 per cent between 1978-79 and 1984-85.

The figures show that almost 75 per cent of pre-tax income went to people in the top half of the income scale in 1984-85.

The poorest members of the population became relatively poorer in the early years of Mrs Thatcher's Government, but have since recovered some ground. Even so, the share of pre-tax income for the poorest 10 per cent fell from 2.4 per cent in 1978-79 to 2.3 per cent in 1984-85.

A surprising feature is the relative squeeze between 1981-82 and 1984-85 on middle income earners, those earning from £3,600 to £8,900. Their share fell from 45.3 to 43.5 per cent over this period.

However, cuts in the basic rate of income tax since 1984-85 should have helped restore the post-tax position of those in the middle income bracket.

Lord Hanson's pay as chairman of the international conglomerate Hanson, formerly Hanson Trust, went up last year from £377,000 to £1,263,000, making him probably the highest paid man in Britain.

The company said in its 1987 annual report, published yesterday, that the increase was part of a review which had doubled boardroom pay from £3 million to £6 million.

A statement said that 18 months ago the board had consulted international experts on pay and had been told the group's pay levels at that time neither matched the company's performance nor approached salaries in international markets for key executives, who were in short supply.

Economic Trends (Central Statistical Office, £9.25).

Commons sketch A taxing time to reform Christmas

The famous House of Commons mobile decorations were switched on yesterday just in time for the Christmas recess.

The chamber lit up with messages of seasonal gloom and despondency in every variety of colour from black to dark black. Rumours that the Father Christmas (Reform) Bill were to be sprung on the country overshadowed the proceedings.

This may well be the last time Lord Christmas, as he is shortly to be styled, will be delivering gifts evenly to all children. It is unfair on those children who have contributed greatly to the general welfare of the country that other children, who have done little other than sit and hawl, should be rewarded equally.

A more fair and rational means of distribution will shortly be announced, in which only those who are wealthy enough to afford gifts will receive them free; others will simply have to pay.

In line with these proposals, schools will be legally bound to tell both sides of the Christmas story, placing due emphasis on the social irresponsibility of the homeless family in transit.

It will be emphasized that Wise Men from the East will be admitted only if they can prove that they have a proper job awaiting them. School children will be taught that the role of shepherds, angels, cattle and mules in a fully modernized society is minimal.

In future, all stories of visitations in stable-style dwellings will include mention of computer-programmed nuclear technologies and those working in the micro-chip industries.

Before the Father Christmas (Reform) Bill gained its first reading, there was the second reading of the Local Government Finance Bill to get through. In Question Time, Mr Graham Allen (Lab), sensing that many of the Prime Minister's closest colleagues disagreed with the proposed tax, asked whether the Hon Lady would agree that the present Cabinet was "the most hopeless, sycophantic cabinet she's ever served in". She would not.

Sir Bernard Braine wished the Prime Minister "a blissful Christmas and a fabulous New Year". The Prime Minister reciprocated his good wishes and extended them "to all people of good will in this House".

Mr Nicholas Fairbairn stumbled to his feet and bumbled that the Hon Lady should "accept the thanks of the people of Scotland for what she has put in their stockings this year" and continued to huddle against socialism. Eventually, he lurched back down into his seat.

"I couldn't have put it better myself," the Prime Minister replied. Commemorative remained divided over whether this was an example of her extreme good manners or her hearty sense of humour. Either way, they were the last happy words the House was to hear for some time.

Mr Edward Heath, believed by a tiny handful of Conservatives to have been a leader of their party in some bygone age, rose to tell tales of a happy land of long ago, a beardless Father Christmas returned to a world now ruled by Captain Hook and his band of brigands.

Thirteen years ago this, he said, quoting from the 1974 Conservative manifesto, and even reminding unbelievers of the days when Lord Barber was such a brilliant Chancellor of the Exchequer.

The poll tax was, he said, "unfair, unwelcome and immensely damaging to the Conservative Party". A few feet away, Mr Nicholas Ridley, Mrs Thatcher's pet crocodile, sat crossly, his patience tick-tocking away.

"Infamous", "mendacious", "against the basic beliefs of this country": those were the season's greetings posted by Dr David Owen.

The poll tax, he said, "owes everything to Thatcherism and Thatcherism owes nothing to the true Conservative Party", but where was the True Conservative Party?

Observers could see few on the benches opposite who conformed to the doctor's high standards of decency, fairness and common sense. He could surely consider only one person in the House that marvellous, the doctor is expected to change his party's initials from the SDP to the TCP.

Craig Brown

Heath attacks poll tax

Continued from page 1

denied. It was unfair because it was not related to ability to pay, Mr Heath said.

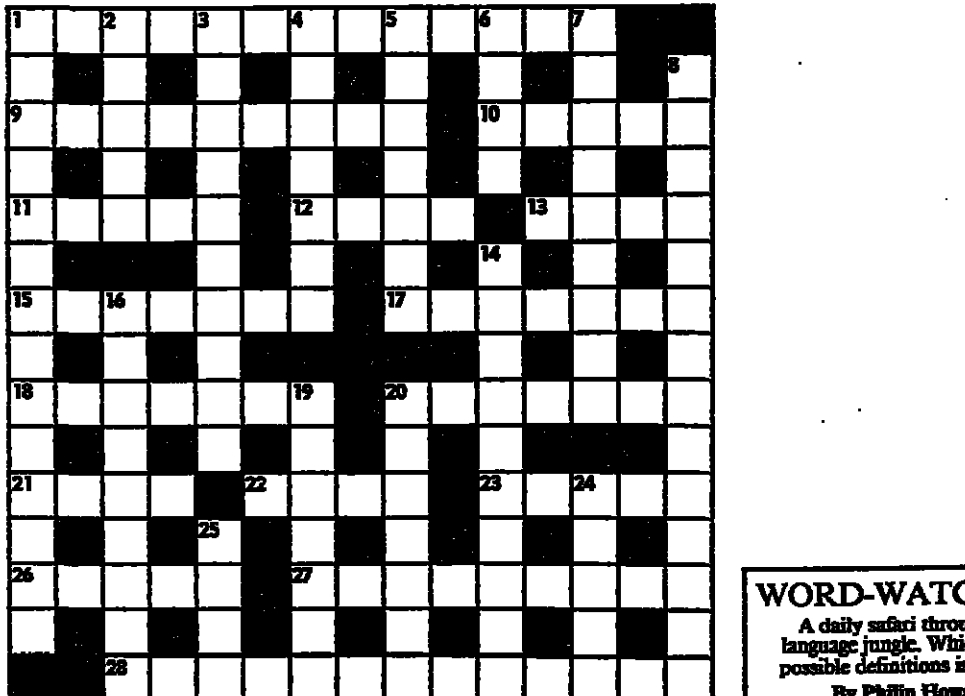
Mr Ridley had said that redistribution through taxation should be a matter for the Chancellor of the Exchequer, but the Conservatives had always believed that it should take place through the local government rates system as well as through income tax.

Mr Heath proposed a computerized amalgamation of the taxation and benefit systems, leading to the introduction of a local income tax.

It was when Mr Ridley interrupted to point out that on present plans Camden's local tax would be 25.6 pence in the pound and that Mr Heath's Bexley would be 5 pence that the former Tory leader's anger flared.

He said that Bexley had had stable rates since 1983. "But we have had precious little reward - just constant attacks on local government from ministers," he said.

THE TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE NO 17,543



- ACROSS**
- 1 It may bar the way to motorists even, causing frustration (5,8).
 - 9 Remark about victory day stoppage in this book (9).
 - 10 Instrument played by English students in company (5).
 - 11 Relief, rejected by one new recruit (5).
 - 12 Old Testament soldiers without fixed duties (4).
 - 13 Man removing passage from article? On the contrary (4).
 - 15 Harangues winds blowing around 13 (7).
 - 17 Island gathering of those disposed to reminisce (7).
 - 18 In capitals he has his residence here (7).
 - 20 Country last deceived by a knight (7).
 - 21 Party returned and governing in Scandinavian myth? (4).
 - 22 In which Rossini portrayed a woman losing her head? (4).
 - 23 Recess for husband in particular (5).
 - 26 The hungry may have a stomach for such rubbish (5).
 - 27 Inhabitant in Rome from the beginning? (9).
- DOWN**
- 2 Old hotel, nothing to repair (4,2,3,5).
 - 3 Lively figures in Caesar's Rome (5).
 - 4 Terrible fills mar old Wyclif's creed (10).
 - 5 Southern singer around West End - a loud voice, his (7).
 - 6 13 possibly - Southey's Rock, not cepe (4).
 - 7 W:ter whose work was highly valued? (9).
 - 8 Bloomer made by unemployed sweetheart (4-2-8).
 - 14 Unacceptable grounds his characters found for being bizarre (10).
 - 16 Originally, it's believed, many brains devised this religious doctrine (9).
 - 19 Main support for CID branch (4-3).
 - 20 Allure of a county once belonging to us (7).
 - 24 Part of a course for a sea-going carpenter? (5).
 - 25 Examine a river (4).

WEATHER

Western Scotland will see showers and some longer spells of rain. Eastern Scotland, Northern Ireland and northern England, will have some sunshine with a few showers. South Wales and south-west England will start cloudy with rain and fog patches. The rest of England and Wales will see heavy rain at times, becoming dry later. Outlook: further rain, followed by brighter weather on Sunday.

ABROAD			
MIDDAY: a, cloud; d, drizzle; f, fair; fog; r, rain; s, sun; an, snow; t, thunder.	C	F	
Algeria	11	59	
Amman	11	52	
Algiers	17	63	
Bahrein	22	72	
Bombay	29	84	
Buenos Aires	1	34	
Calcutta	1	34	
Cairo	12	54	
Colombo	29	84	
Hong Kong	18	64	
London	11	52	
Madras	29	84	
Manila	29	84	
Mexico	22	72	
Moscow	1	34	
Paris	11	52	
Rangoon	29	84	
Seoul	1	34	
Singapore	29	84	
Taipei	1	34	
Tokyo	11	52	
Yokohama	11	52	

AROUND BRITAIN			
Cardiff	11	52	
Edinburgh	11	52	
Glasgow	11	52	
London	11	52	
Manchester	11	52	
Newcastle	11	52	
Nottingham	11	52	
Sheffield	11	52	
Southampton	11	52	
Stirling	11	52	
Wolverhampton	11	52	

WORD-WATCHING

A daily safari through the language jungle. Which of the possible definitions is correct?

By Philip Howard

IDIOM
a. A pictorial symbol
b. A signature
c. A trademark

CATOPTROMANCY
a. Fortune-telling
b. Study of contact lenses
c. Nervous blinking

AIT
a. The three-toed sloth
b. A score at Pelota
c. An island

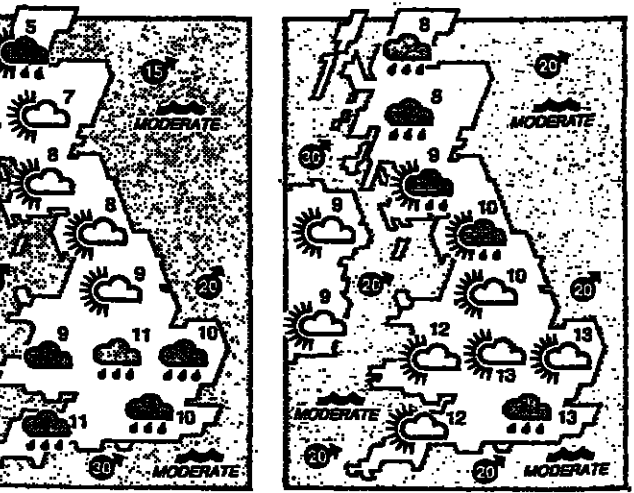
MUNG
a. Fish
b. A nocturnal lemur
c. To destroy

Solutions page 16, column 8

Solution to Puzzle No 17,542



AM PM



LONDON

Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 14C (57F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 11C (52F). Wind: SE, 10-15 mph. Rain: 0.2 in. Sun: 24 hr to 6 pm, 0.2 in. Sea: 24 hr to 6 pm, 0.2 in. Mean sea level, 6 pm, 1007.5 mbars, rain, 1,000 mbars - 25.0 in.

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Wednesday: Highest day temp: Glasgow, 14C (57F); lowest day temp: Edinburgh, 10C (50F). Wind: SE, 10-15 mph. Rain: 0.2 in. Sun: 24 hr to 6 pm, 0.2 in. Sea: 24 hr to 6 pm, 0.2 in. Mean sea level, 6 pm, 1007.5 mbars, rain, 1,000 mbars - 25.0 in.

MANCHESTER

Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 13C (55F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 10C (50F). Wind: SE, 10-15 mph. Rain: 0.2 in. Sun: 24 hr to 6 pm, 0.2 in. Sea: 24 hr to 6 pm, 0.2 in. Mean sea level, 6 pm, 1007.5 mbars, rain, 1,000 mbars - 25.0 in.

LIGHTING-UP TIME

London 4:22 pm to 7:22 am
Edinburgh 4:22 pm to 7:22 am
Glasgow 4:22 pm to 7:22 am
Manchester 4:22 pm to 7:22 am
Newcastle 4:22 pm to 7:22 am

THE POUND

Bank
Australia \$ 2.55
Canada \$ 1.33
France F 6.55
Germany DM 2.36
Hong Kong \$ 7.80
Italy L 1.36
Japan Y 163.60
New Zealand \$ 2.25
Singapore S 2.46
Switzerland F 2.20
Taiwan NT 20.48
Thailand B 50.48
US \$ 1.53

NOON TODAY

London 12:00 pm
Edinburgh 12:00 pm
Glasgow 12:00 pm
Manchester 12:00 pm
Newcastle 12:00 pm

Information supplied by London Weather Centre

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STOCK MARKET

Not-so-festive stores under attack

By Michael Clark and Geoffrey Foster

There is little prospect of a Merry Christmas and prosperous new year for retailers, according to stockbrokers, who are becoming even more pessimistic about the level of spending in the shops during the festive season.

Yesterday, it was the turn of Dixons, the leading electrical retailer, and Woolworth to come under pressure following a downgrading of profits by one leading firm of brokers. Dixons ended the day 7p cheaper at 195p on turnover of 10 million shares, while Woolworth shed 9p at 244p as more than 2 million shares were traded.

Citicorp Securities Vickers is the latest broker to take a bearish view of prospects for retailers over the Christmas period which is traditionally their most profitable time of the year.

It has reduced its forecast of profits for the current year at Woolworth by £7 million to £138 million compared with last year's £153 million. Its estimate for next year has

been trimmed from £172 million to £165 million.

Citicorp has also lowered its profits estimate for Dixons for the current year — for the second time in the space of six weeks — from £135 million to £120 million. The broker fears further downgradings may be necessary.

Citicorp's assessments coincided with its annual retail lunch attended by leading names in the high street and various fund managers. Woolworth was unable to attend. A company spokesman said: "We never comment on brokers' forecasts but we are rather surprised. Citicorp has apparently issued a revised forecast without contacting the company."

The rest of the equity market extended the pre-Christmas rally helped by takeover news. But prices failed to hold their best levels and there were signs of profit-taking towards the close as Wall Street opened lower ahead of the "triple witching hour" today.

The FT-SE 100-share index surged through the 1,700-level with a rise of 16.4 to close at 1,706.2, having been 25.7 up. The FT 30-share index rose 17.7 to finish at 1,366.6.

Government securities rose 3/4, still reflecting the better-than-expected PSBR figures this week. Remaining supplies of the £1 billion "tap" Treasury 8 per cent 1990 were exhausted.

Among the leaders, Allied-Lyons rose 17p to 355p after Mr Alan Bond, the Australian entrepreneur, confirmed that he had taken his stake above 5 per cent.

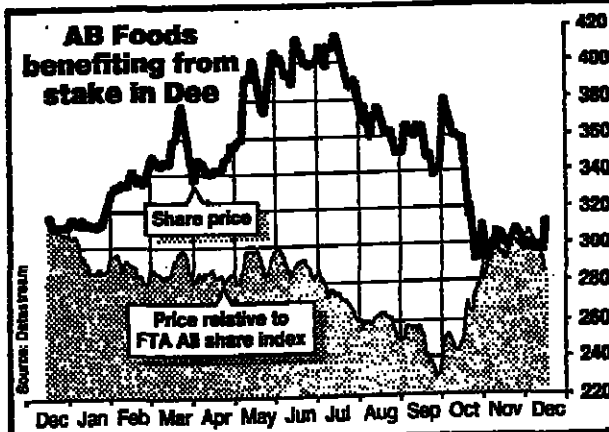
An early talking point was the second dawn raid in the space of a week by BP on Britoil, the independent exploration group. This time BP sent out three brokers — Hoare Govett, Barclays de Zoete Wedd and Goldman Sachs — to pick up an extra 50 million shares, or 10 per cent, in the marketplace at 450p each.

The business was carried out with the minimum of fuss and raises BP's total holding in Britoil to 24.9 per cent. Last week, BP bought a 14.9 per cent stake in Britoil and announced plans to raise it to 29.9 per cent with a tender for an extra 76 million shares at 300p.

But Atlantic Richfield, the US oil group, thwarted its plans by bidding 350p for a 7.7 per cent stake in Britoil. Dealers in London have been bracing themselves over the past few days for BP to make a full bid.

The BP ordinary shares finished 5p lower at 239p while the new shares lost an early lead to close unchanged at 70.5p as a further 46 million shares were traded.

Some brokers and fund managers have expressed surprise at the decision of the Kuwait Investment Office to lift its holding above the 15 per cent level. Some of them are now wondering at the



motive behind the KIO's aggressive spending spree. There is every chance that KIO will be able to pick up the new shares much cheaper once the Government walks away from the issue in the new year.

There have been suggestions that the price could fall as low as 60p. The rest of the oil sector failed to join in the festivities.

Brokers were placed on red alert yesterday after Cadbury Schweppes, where General Cinema holds an 18.2 per cent stake, called a meeting with analysts for today — to coincide with the start of trading on Wall Street. There is talk Cadbury may have lined up an acquisition.

elsewhere in the market as the price of North Sea Brent crude fell to \$14.50 a barrel — its lowest level for a year. It has now fallen almost \$2 since Monday despite agreement by the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries to limit production levels.

Falls were seen in Enterprise Oil, down 14p to 235p; Laurus, down 18p to 251p; Premier Consolidated, down 5p to 49p; and Shell, down 15p to 970p.

The £2.04 billion bid by Barker & Dobson for Dee Corporation, which includes

the Fine Fare supermarket chain, bolstered confidence with dealers hoping that it might channel some much-needed cash back into the marketplace. The Dee price responded to the news with a rise of 56p to 230p as 31 million shares changed hands. Marketmen claim Barker will probably have to pay a little more if it wants to win control and are not ruling out the possibility of a white knight putting in an appearance.

Dee's share price has consistently underperformed the market during the past year after issuing large quantities of shares to finance various acquisitions worth an estimated £1 billion.

But one beneficiary of the bid for Dee will be Associated British Foods which holds 135 million shares in the company amounting to 15 per cent which it received in part-shipment for the sale of Fine Fare to Dee last year. The shares were then reckoned to be worth about £361 million or 268p each when the deal was completed but have continued to drop ever since.

Mr Gary Weston, chairman of AB Foods, refused to comment yesterday on the situation. AB Foods finished 15p dearer at 312p.

News of the bid also put some pep back into the rest of the food retailers. ASDA-MFI

firmed 4p to 169p. Argill Group 8p to 198p. Kwik Save Discount 6p to 303p. William Low 12p to 556p. Nurdin & Piscook 5p to 134p and J Sainsbury 4p to 226p.

The surge of corporate activity in the market has led to speculation that BTR, may soon start flexing its financial muscle. Its bid earlier this year for Pilkington ended in failure. There has since been talk that it is now looking at a leading engineering company.

Shares of GKN rose 22p to 300p, after 305p, as more than 1 million shares changed hands. GKN has always been regarded as being a prime target for BTR with the latter looking to tie up GKN's main motor component business with its own Dunlop operations.

Hawker Siddeley, which has enjoyed speculative runs in the past on BTR takeover talk, was also on the move closing a few pence higher at 448p. The shares also made

Maget, the kitchen furniture maker and retailer, attracted late speculative support and closed 37p higher at 235p as word went round the market that a dawn raid was planned on the company today and a bid from Ladbroke, the hotel to betting shop group, would soon follow.

their debut on the traded options market yesterday.

Lucas Industries was also chased high with a rise of 9p to 525p on vague takeover stories.

Greenwell Montagu, the broker, recently advised its clients to buy Lucas, claiming the shares had been oversold. Analysts believe that the group's order books are strong and all losses have been eliminated apart from the Greenwell plant in the US which will return to profit in 1988-89.

HK unveils reforms to futures exchange

From Stephen Leather Hong Kong

The Hong Kong futures exchange yesterday announced a series of reforms which it hopes will restore confidence to the futures market which had to be bailed out with a HK\$4 billion (£286 million) rescue package this year.

Brokers who trade in the Hang Seng index market will have to increase their paid-up capital from the present level of HK\$2 million to HK\$5 million in the next 12 months.

Any broker who wants to obtain clearing rights — which will allow him to trade on behalf of clients — must have a net worth of HK\$10 million, against the present HK\$5 million.

Brokers who want to become general clearing members and clear their own contracts and the contracts of other non-clearing members, must increase their net worth from the present HK\$5 million to HK\$25 million.

And the exchange is to introduce a new category — "local" members who can trade only on their own account but who will be subject to relatively restrictive position limits. Such members would have to meet a minimum capital requirement of HK\$500,000.

The exchange is also to impose limits on the number of open positions that brokers can hold.

Brokers will also have to establish the identity of their clients and establish if they are individuals or limited companies, and will have to obtain basic financial information about them.

"Brokers will be encouraged to consider the use of higher margins for higher risk clients," the exchange said yesterday.

The Hong Kong government had to join local brokers and banks to avert a massive default following the stock market crash which was exacerbated by the closure of the Hong Kong stock exchange for four days after Black Monday.

Mr Wilfrid Newton, who was appointed chairman of the exchange after the crash, said yesterday: "The exchange's aim now is to re-establish confidence in the financial standing and integrity of its members."

BASE LENDING RATES

ABN	8.50%
Adam & Company	8.50%
BCCI	8.50%
Consolidated Grds	8.50%
Co-operative Bank	8.50%
C. Hoare & Co	8.50%
Hong Kong & Shanghai	8.50%
Lloyds Bank	8.50%
Nat Westminster	8.50%
Royal Bank of Scotland	8.50%
TSB	8.50%
Citibank NA	8.50%

TEMPUS

Good value at GrandMet

Grand Metropolitan's soggy share price, underperforming the market by 16 per cent in the past year, has been heavily influenced by fears of over-exposure to the dollar. Yesterday's results proved that while the group is exposed to the dollar, that is by no means the whole story.

About 31 per cent of its pre-interest profit is earned in North America, but this falls to 21 per cent of profit after tax. Little can be done to counter the translation effects of the falling dollar — every 1 cent move converts into £1 million of profits — and the negative impact on last year's result was £20 million. But forward hedging can protect its export revenues, and dollar borrowing helps its balance sheet while giving the benefit of lower interest costs.

Investors should not allow currency worries to blind them to the merits of GrandMet's underlying business. After several acquisitions and disposals, the most significant of which is Heublein, the group has refocused its activities on its core businesses, all of which did well last year. Strongly branded consumer non-durables often do better in hard times.

Gearing is high at 77 per cent — down from 106 per cent last year — despite operating cash flow of £400 million after capital spending. Gearing should fall further with the sale of Children's World for \$117 million (£65 million) and this year's cash flow.

No less than £1.5 billion of goodwill was written off to reserves last year, and net assets per share have fallen to 201p compared with 238p last year. The group will be revaluing its tangible properties next year and is looking for a substantial surplus. However, its most valuable assets, its brands, will remain at zero valuation.

With £550 million pretax forecast for this year, the prospective multiple is nine. Worries about the dollar are likely to continue to be a drag on sentiment in the short term, but the shares look good value for the longer term.

Secure with LMS

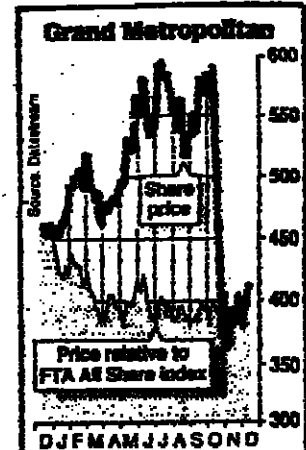
London Merchant Securities may not be the most exciting as far as net earnings are concerned, but there is a solid foundation from the net asset value to make the shares at 88p well worth a buy.

Pretax profits for the six months to end-September superficially look good at £7.23 million against £4.22 million, helped by a stronger contribution from the leisure interests, and the swing from losses into profits by the oil and gas division.

However, the recent purchase for £40 million of the rest of Cartwright Estate will mean a higher interest charge in the second half, therefore, not that much growth in the year-on-year pretax profit line should be expected.

Perhaps, at best, LMS will turn out £18.5 million against £16.8 million.

But investment eyes are



Macarthy

As in an end-term school report, Macarthy admits that it has to try harder. But at least it starts the current term in good shape.

Year-on-year profit comparisons are not easy given the various capital changes and a different year-end, but even excluding the contributions from acquisitions there has been organic growth with which the market was pleased.

The shares rose by 6p to 281p, helped by the hint that not only should there be profitable growth in the year ahead, but acquisitions, too.

Pre-tax profit for the year ended October 3 at £5.62 million tops the forecast made at the time of the Drummond Pharmacy Group deal, whose profit contribution will be felt for the first time in the current year.

Manufacturing and distribution — which turned in operating profits of £6.41 million — will remain the major profit generator while the retailing division gets to work at improving its margins. The acquisition of DPG should help in this fight.

Gearing is now down to a more manageable 15 per cent, post the rights issue, and with 178 chemist shops and 28 health food shops already within Macarthy, there could be further network acquisitions this year. Profits of £10.8 million should be within reach, and the shares offer the highest yield in their sector. Buy.

Young warning on trade with China

By Colin Narborough

Lord Young of Grafton, who has campaigned hard to make British industry aware of the potential of a truly Common Market in Europe, yesterday turned to trade with China, warning exporters that it was not an easy market.

In an after-dinner speech to the Sino-British Trade Council, the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry expressed his strong personal wish for good Anglo-Chinese relations following his visit to Peking in October.

But good relations were not enough, he said, and British exports of goods and services to China had to be able to compete in world markets on price and quality.

Britain was not the only country cultivating the enormous Chinese market. Japan and other leading developed countries were very active.

Furthermore, China was able to choose from the best in the world and demanded the "most competitive prices."

Lord Young noted, however, that British industry's strengths — energy, telecommunications, transport, agriculture and industrial modernization, were all priority areas in China's plans for development.

China was also a market that British business could approach with confidence regarding long-term stability. In addition, the Chinese were putting increasing emphasis on commercial autonomy of provinces, which offered new openings for trade.

He said the volume of business with China had been "disappointing" given the large number of visits sponsored by British trade organizations. The West Germans, French and Italians were all doing better than British exporters.

Visits were not enough. There was a clear need for marketing and negotiating strategy, and scope for collaboration.

After discussions with its

Legrand admits defeat

By Cliff Feltham

Legrand, the French electrical group, yesterday admitted defeat and pulled out of the takeover battle for MK Electric, the plugs and sockets group.

Legrand's offer of 660p a share was topped by RTZ Corporation, which won the backing of the MK board for a bid worth 700p, valuing the company at £262.8 million.

After discussions with its

financial advisers Legrand said it had decided that its terms were "full and generous" and should not be raised.

During the hotly contested takeover, Legrand acquired a 9 per cent stake in MK and stands to make about £1.5 million on its investment.

RTZ yesterday bought more MK shares to ER its total holding to just over 35 per cent.

Our latest investment should provide you with an even better return

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■ You'll enjoy inter-continental standards of comfort; wide-cabin spaciousness and uncanny in-flight smoothness. But that's not all.

■ You'll also benefit from a choice of 26 flights a week, round-the-clock departure times and Air UK's no-smoking policy on Channel Islands services.

■ For the discerning business traveller it all adds up to an excellent return on our investment.

■ See your travel agent or phone Air UK on Linkline (0345) 666 777.

Information is also available on Prestel 60647.

AirUK



Panel may waive ruling on share offers after crash

By Lawrence Lever

The Takeover Panel opened a small window of opportunity yesterday to predators which built up stakes in companies before the market crash.

It said that "in exceptional circumstances" it would dispense with the requirement in the takeover code for any subsequent bid by the predator to match the highest price it has paid for its shares in the target company.

In an amendment to the code, the Panel listed six separate sets of factors which might be relevant to granting a dispensation.

These included factors such as a subsequent collapse in the price of shares purchased by a

predator, the attitude of the offeree board, whether a competing offer has been announced and the number of shares purchased by the predator.

"I don't think that we are going to be leaping to give exceptions to the rule," a Panel spokesman said yesterday.

The Panel has amended the relevant provision in the Takeover Code - Rule 6.1 - with immediate effect. This means that the amendment will apply to stakes which have already been built up.

Rule 6.1 governs "purchases when an offer is reasonably in contemplation." It stipulates: "When an offer is reasonably in contemplation if the potential offeror ac-

quires shares in the potential offeree company, any subsequent general offer made by or on behalf of that offeree or any person acting in concert with it to the shareholders of the same class shall not be on less favourable terms."

The underlying purpose of the rule is that all shareholders in the potential target company should be treated equally.

However, the Panel said that the wording of Rule 6.1 "can give rise to uncertainty, causing difficulties for companies and their advisers, which are highlighted by sharp falls in share markets such as happened in October".

The market crash has

brought Rule 6 more sharply into focus. With a bull market the question of wanting to bid at below the target company's shares price scarcely arose.

The Panel was, therefore, defining more closely what counts as a purchase "when an offer is reasonably in contemplation" by stipulating that the rule applies to purchases made within three months of an offer.

This dispenses with the imprecise, subjective test of "reasonably in contemplation." It is also likely to benefit small shareholders who regularly sell their shares on a price rise shortly before a full-scale takeover bid is announced.

Industry spending 'to grow by 8%'

By David Smith
Economics Correspondent

Industry plans to increase its investment strongly next year, according to the latest survey published by the Department of Trade and Industry.

The volume of industrial investment is expected to rise by 8 per cent, within which capital expenditure by manufacturing is projected to be particularly strong, increasing by 11 per cent overall.

The survey, based on questionnaires completed by companies in September and October, did not reflect any effects on investment of the stock market crash, Department of Trade and Industry officials said.

However, the Confederation of British Industry has said the investment plans of its members would not be affected by the stock market crash.

The expected rise of 8 per cent in industrial investment next year will follow an increase of 6 per cent this year. In 1989, investment will continue to rise but at a slower rate than in 1988, according to the survey.

Manufacturing investment, including leased assets, is projected to rise by 11 per cent next year, after a 6 per cent increase this year.

Direct investment by manufacturing is planned to increase by 12 per cent.

The sharp increase in investment intentions by manufacturing is the most notable change since the last DTI survey, which was published in June.

At that time, manufacturing investment was projected to increase by 4 per cent both this year and next.

Investment by the construction, distribution and selected service industries is expected to rise by 6 per cent next year, slower than the rate of growth of investment in manufacturing.

Revised figures for the third quarter, published yesterday, showed capital expenditure by industry at £4.95 billion (at 1980 prices) - nearly 5 per cent down on the second quarter result but 4 per cent up on the third quarter of last year.

Investment in the latest 12 months was more than 5 per cent higher than in the previous 12 month period.

Manufacturing investment, at £1.87 billion (in 1980 prices), was 2.5 per cent lower than in the second quarter but nearly 5 per cent up on a year earlier.

Dee's credibility gap faces the £2bn test

Barker & Dobson's £2 billion break-up bid for Dee Corporation is being taken somewhat more seriously in the market than some other break-up plans. It deserves to be. The move has attracted the support of some powerful financial backers. And its timing catches the City in a mood of deep disenchantment with Dee's recent performance.

Although the bid is not underwritten, it contains £1.25 billion cash. The syndicate of seven banks, arranged by Kleinwort Benson with Citibank as agent, would not have lent this sort of money unless it believed it was backing a credible business plan and was going to get its money back.

The total loan of £1.6 billion for three and a half years assumes a thorough programme of disposals. First to go would probably be the 76 superstores which could raise between £500 million and £700 million. All the operators in the superstore market are expected to be interested, with Asda perhaps the keenest and still flush with funds from the MFI sell-off.

The other non-core businesses are likely to take longer to sell, particularly Herman's Sporting Goods in the US where turnover growth is lagging behind the expansion in outlets.

The timing of the bid, as Dee pointed out, is opportunistic. Only last week Dee's interim results disappointed the City showing an 18.7 per cent decline in pretax profit to £63.6 million.

Dee is 18 months into its programme of integrating the Fine Fare stores

acquired from Associated British Foods and the task is clearly proving harder than expected. Margins in Gateway supermarkets fell to 3.76 per cent from 3.98 per cent and Dee admitted to a 6.5 per cent dip in turnover in midsummer due to the disruption of refurbishments.

Dee is expected to make full-year profits of £195 million, slightly above the £187 million made last year. The prospective exit multiple is 14.7, which even in today's depressed markets looks a little low.

A further sweetener, perhaps of the order of 10 per cent to 15 per cent more, may be needed if the bid is to have a chance of success.

Dee is now firmly in the takeover arena, and other bidders may well emerge. But it is unlikely that one of the leading supermarketiers is a candidate. One of the difficulties of other grocers going for Dee is market share dominance. Dee is the country's third largest food retailer with 13 per cent share behind J Sainsbury with 17.4 per cent and Tesco with 15.4 per cent. Argyll comes fourth and Asda fifth.

The other imponderable is what Associated British Foods will want to do with its 15 per cent stake in Dee. Yesterday Mr Gary Weston, the chairman, was not saying anything.

The outcome will probably turn on the ability of Dee's chief executive, Mr Alec Monk, to win support for his longer-term strategies. The recent dismal performance of Dee shares is evidence of a yawning credibility gap which may prove impossible to plug.

Tokyo's credibility gap

Two months after Black Monday, there is widespread agreement in London and New York that the crash had to happen and will not quickly be reversed. In Tokyo, however, it is still treated as a short-term correction that should provide a great buying opportunity. This may explain why share prices have fallen by only 13 per cent in Tokyo even though Japanese shares had been selling at 60 times earnings, nearly four times the London rating.

The Japanese finance ministry has been anxious to keep the market's image good since it wants savers and pension funds to invest in shares to fund the needs of the Japan's ageing population. It encouraged domestic institutions to put an extra £2 billion into shares the week after the crash. But private investors, after selling on Black Monday, swiftly rushed back for bargains, injecting a net £2.8 billion on the week. Only foreign investors lost confidence, halving their portfolio investment in Japan.

Nomura Securities is now trying to address this international credibility gap. Far from being wildly overvalued, argues Nomura, Tokyo is likely to outperform London and Wall Street significantly over the next few years, even without yen appreciation. Institutional investors abroad should think carefully before denying Tokyo its natural 40 per cent weighting.

Japan is forecast to grow faster than any other OECD economy over the next five years. And the high ratings may be justified in comparison with low interest rates - a 2.5 per cent discount rate against London base rates of 8.5 per cent.

Investment institutions, on average only 8 per cent invested in equities, are likely to take the same route. The biggest impact, however, will come from pension funds, which have less than a quarter of their funds in equities, compared with three-quarters in Britain.

Bond has 5.01% of Allied shares

By Colin Campbell

Bond Corporation Holdings yesterday formally declared that it held 5.01 per cent of the share capital of Allied-Lyons, equivalent to a holding of 36.5 million shares. This is worth £129.4 million on last night's closing stock market price.

The Bond group added yesterday that the stake was friendly, and merely cemented a long-standing relationship between the two companies.

The announcement confirms market suggestions that Mr Alan Bond's group has been building up a stake in the food and drinks group.

However, because of the already close association between the two groups - Allied-Lyons and Bond co-operate in Britain with the marketing of Castlemeane XXXX and Swan Lite beer - the announcement of a 5.01 per cent stake came as no great surprise.

Analysts suggest Mr Bond's additional purchases, which took him over the disclosure level, may be associated with a wish to average out his original estimated 3 per cent purchase of Allied-Lyons shares at 430p.

By buying additional shares at lower prices, he trims his paper loss which in the current Australian investment climate is not fashionable with investors.

Allied-Lyons shares yesterday rose from 338p to 355p.

Both Mr Bond's group and Allied-Lyons have worldwide interests in the drinks business.

A master of surprise

By Alison Eadie

Mr John Fletcher, the chairman of Barker & Dobson Group, is not short of ambition. His audacious £2 billion bid for Dee Corporation stunned and cheered the market yesterday.

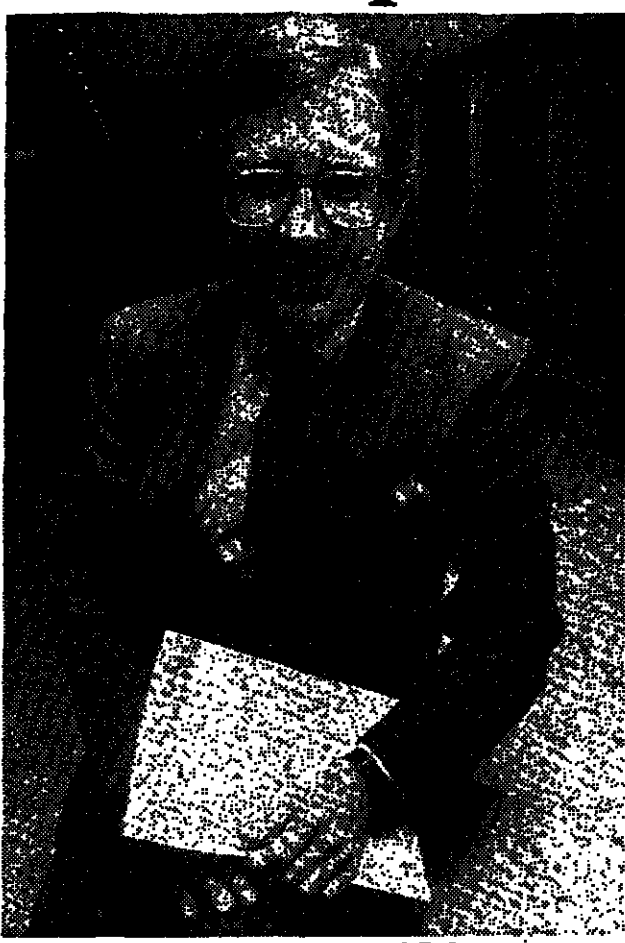
It also stunned Mr Anthony Butler, a Dee director, who was phoned at his home at 7am yesterday to be told of Barker & Dobson's intentions. Mr Alec Monk, the Dee chairman, should also have received a dawn awakening, but was out of the country.

Mr Fletcher, aged 45, has been looking for a new challenge for some time. Although Dee's market capitalization is 15 times that of Barker & Dobson, Mr Fletcher asserted that "the fundamentals of retailing are not a function of size."

The culture of management is what counts, he said, and pointed out that within his management team he had retailers who had come from the leading food retailing groups Asda, Argyll and Tesco.

Mr Fletcher is a well-known and rated food retailer. After obtaining a master's degree in business administration at Harvard University in the early 1970s, he joined Ortel Foods, rising to become chief executive in 1979. From 1981 to 1984 he was managing director of Asda Stores.

A difference of opinion with his colleagues led to his abrupt departure from Asda. Armed with a golden handshake of more than £100,000, Mr Fletcher then cast around for a new vehicle. His attempt to buy the loss-making Cullen's grocery chain was unsuccessful, but he then discovered the troubled Barker & Dobson in May, 1985.



Audacious: John Fletcher of Barker & Dobson yesterday

Mr Fletcher promptly sold off Barker's 150-strong chain of newsagents to Guinness and concentrated on turning round and expanding the confectionery side, which included brand names such as Victory Vs and Hacks.

The first acquisition was the Dundee marmalade and butter-spread maker, James Keiller, but the big leap forward came in July last year,

when Barker paid £80 million to Booker for its Budget supermarkets chain.

The turnaround at Budget has been swift. In the 28 weeks to July 11 Budget made operating profits of £5.7 million on a turnover of £125.9 million, against a comparative pre-acquisition first half of £2.9 million profits on a turnover of £116.9 million. The operating margin rose to 4.5 per cent from 2.5 per cent.

Blue Circle pays £73m for brick firm's parent

By Cliff Feltman

Blue Circle Industries - the cement giant in the thick of a £200 million takeover battle for the lawnmower maker Birmid Quascast - is spending £73 million on a Swiss company whose main asset is Oakley Brick, which has 200 years of clay reserves in the heart of the buoyant south east building market.

Oakley Brick, which owns 460 acres of world clay ideal for making facing bricks, chipped in £3.6 million of the

ICI sells petrol outlets to Burmah for £21m

By Our City Staff

ICI is selling its petrol retailing business in Britain to Burmah Oil for £21 million.

The business comprises 300 retail outlets, independently owned but trading under the ICI banner, and about six distributors. The retail outlets are in the North of England and Scotland.

An ICI spokesman said yesterday that the company had decided to leave petrol retailing because it was no

longer central to its core activities.

The deal will increase the total number of Burmah retail sites to more than 1,500, giving it nearly 5 per cent of the retail market.

Petrol production is a core activity for ICI and the company has agreed a long-term contract with Burmah to supply it with about 600,000 tonnes of petrol annually from its production facilities in Teesside.

AJ Bekhor gives 100 the sack

AJ Bekhor, the broking house best known for utilizing hordes of half-commission men, yesterday laid-off a large number of staff. There were unconfirmed reports that as many as 100 employees possibly half the firm's total staff - had been sent letters of dismissal. The letters, handed out as staff returned from lunch, apparently told them their employment had been terminated from the close of business last night. It gave them all one month's notice and added: "You have already been paid up to the end of December so that period includes paid notice for one half-month. Further payment for 11 working days will be made." One sacked employee complained that "no warning had been given" "they didn't even call a meeting," he said, "just gave us each a letter." Joint managing director Malcolm Harries refused to comment at the firm's new Old Street headquarters.

Cash is king

Robert Holmes à Court may be selling assets left, right and centre to ease his temporary cash flow problem, but not all Australians, it seems, are in a similar predicament. Ealing-born Alan Bond, whose Bond Corporation declared yesterday that it had a 5 per cent stake in Allied-Lyons - worth £130 million - has also, I hear, just treated himself to a million-pound Christmas present. He has lashed out \$2.6 million (£1.4 million) on a 3,500 sq ft condominium in

THE TIMES' CITY DIARY

What's in a name?

My sympathies and total understanding to those in the City who find themselves in a never-ending game of musical chairs in which names, faces, titles and addresses change faster than autumn leaves. Especially to one analyst at English China Clays' transatlantic telephone link-up with New York this week who forgot (temporarily, I hope) his firm's name. While some brokers' analysts took the hand microphone more than

once, and some more than three times, to announce their names and firms, James Stevenson stumbled when his turn came. "Yes," he said, "I am James Stevenson... but who am I from?" A pregnant pause... "Oh yes. It has an 'ac' in it..." For the record, he is in fact with Wood Mackenzie, one time subsidiary of Hill Samuel, and now known as County NatWest incorporating Wood Mackenzie.

Christmas gift

Michael Golder, chairman of Kennedy Brooks, the expanding restaurant-to-hotel chain, is offering his shareholders a Christmas present to remember - a free weekend in any one of its 21 country hotels, including The Bear at Woodstock and Ye Olde Bell at Hurley. The offer is open to people with more than 250 shares - which would set you back £555 - and is valid until the end of March. "Because of our expansion and acquisitions we now have a large number of new shareholders," says Golder. "We felt this would be a suitable way of giving them a chance to learn more about us directly - and for long-standing shareholders to see just how much the company has changed."

Big freeze at Capel

Christmas cheer went out of the window at stockbroker James Capel yesterday when market men discovered their pay had been frozen for four months and year-end bonuses reduced from the 8 per cent handed out last year to 5 per cent. The broking firm had recently changed its year-end from April to December, to match that of its parent, the Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation, and its employees had been expecting a bonus as well as pay reviews this month. "We had initially said there would be pay reviews in December but it is only eight months since the last one, because of the change in our year-end," explained James Capel chairman Peter Quinnen, "and bearing in mind market circumstances we have now decided to wait until April." But to console his disappointed staff, Quinnen assures me that talk of imminent redundancies is untrue. "We are not laying anyone off - in fact, we are still recruiting. I think some firms have reacted too dramatically to the downturn in activity levels."

● Alec Monk, chairman and chief executive of Gateway supermarket group Dee Corporation, currently out of the country, was not, it seems, the only person taken by surprise by Barker & Dobson's bid. Food retailing analysts at EZW, brokers to Dee, also slipped up on something of a banana skin yesterday - they, too, were out of the office, on a company visit, but not at Dee, at... Geest.

Carol Leonard

Scottish & Newcastle

EXCELLENT FIRST HALF PERFORMANCE

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- GOOD RESULTS FROM BEER DIVISION - TAKE-HOME AND HOME BREWERY CONTRIBUTE STRONGLY
- THISTLE HOTELS SPARKLE
- INTERIM DIVIDEND UP BY 12%

	UNAUDITED HALF YEAR TO 1.11.87 £M	UNAUDITED HALF YEAR TO 26.10.86 £M
TURNOVER	429.3	393.8
OPERATING PROFIT	62.8	50.1
PRE-TAX PROFIT	57.3	44.8
EARNINGS PER SHARE	11.4p	10.1p
DIVIDEND PER SHARE	2.70p	2.41p

FOR A COPY OF THE FULL INTERIM REPORT, PLEASE WRITE TO THE COMPANY SECRETARY, SCOTTISH & NEWCASTLE BREWeries PLC, 111 HOLLYWOOD ROAD, EDINBURGH EH8 8YS. EXISTING SHAREHOLDERS WILL RECEIVE A COPY MONTHLY.

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1986/87 RESULTS

PRE-TAX PROFITS UP 24%
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EARNINGS PER SHARE UP 21% ⁽¹⁾

FINAL DIVIDEND UP 20% ⁽²⁾

(1) Preliminary
(2) Recommended

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Which means that Grand Metropolitan has been able to concentrate and direct its energies into the businesses where it is strong. To add strength to strength, not only from the outside but from the inside, through innovation and new product development.


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That's why the year, which has been such a success, is the start of something even better.

GRAND METROPOLITAN

....adding value 

F&C set to have listing in Tokyo

Danish television that the public sector in Scandinavia was far too big, and selling the

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"Stephen Lewis continued to lead this sector."

GILT-EDGED MARKET

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"Michael Freyd and team held 1st place."

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FIRST: PHILLIPS & DREW

"The Phillips & Drew team continue to dominate this sector."

LIFE

FIRST: PHILLIPS & DREW

"The Phillips & Drew team continue to dominate this sector."

LIFE

FIRST: PHILLIPS & DREW

"Kenneth Inglis remains well ahead in this sector."

UK EQUITY MARKET - GENERAL COMMENTS, FORECASTING AND STRATEGY

FIRST: PHILLIPS & DREW

"Always neck and neck in this sector, the leaders reversed places again this year with the Phillips & Drew team gaining the edge."

INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIES - GENERAL COMMENTS AND FORECASTING

FIRST: PHILLIPS & DREW

"Bill Martin's lead."

UK ECONOMY - GENERAL COMMENTS AND FORECASTING

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INTERNATIONAL EQUITY MARKETS - GENERAL COMMENTS, FORECASTING AND STRATEGY

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And depending on your own forecast for 1988, you may conclude that the teams at Phillips & Drew might just be able to contribute a lot to your activities.

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Oftel to draw up PABX sale code

By Joe Joseph

Oftel, the body responsible for regulating the telecommunications industry, is planning to draw up a voluntary code of practice for the supply of private automatic branch exchanges (PABXs), after the results of a study showing that consumers might benefit from greater competition.

Professor Bryan Carsberg, Oftel's director-general, said that, despite increasing competition in the PABX market, a few manufacturers still accounted for most of the basic installations.

The result was that while customers initially had a considerable choice of suppliers of PABXs, once that decision was made there was often no practical alternative source of any enhancements required later.

The leading PABX suppliers include Plessey, GEC, Miel, which is 51 per cent owned by British Telecom, and Canada's Northern Telecom.

More than 50 per cent of PABX users who responded to the survey said they were dissatisfied, due to delays and poor execution of work by PABX suppliers.

Professor Carsberg said he planned to start discussions with the relevant trade associations, manufacturers and distributors, to try to establish a voluntary code of practice.

He said the study, which was carried out in late 1986 and early 1987, indicated that in the longer term technological advances might lead to greater flexibility and therefore more choice for PABX users.

But, meantime, in spite of some unavoidable difficulties in obtaining extensive competition, a code of practice for behaviour at the time of sale of the PABX would provide some protection for users, Prof Carsberg said.

The SEC investigation battles on against legal and budget blocks

Turning Wall Street inside out

From Bailey Morris, Washington

The US insider trading investigation, once the scourge of Wall Street, has encountered serious difficulties, a victim of staffing problems and legal setbacks which will delay charges until next year.

Indeed, the sentencing today of Mr Ivan Boesky, the disgraced arbitrageur who touched off the scandal, has become almost a footnote to the larger problems that have engulfed Wall Street.

As the cases have dragged on, the public has almost forgotten the players in the "Boesky-Levine ring," the "Yuppie five," the Foster Winans case and similar investigations since 1977 which have produced a record of 137 insider trading cases.

Mr David Ruder, the chairman of the US Securities and Exchange Commission, confirmed the delays in testimony this week in which he promised to clarify the status of the cases as soon as possible.

"Insider trading is a natural outcome of human greed, and it is something which is very hard to find and to prove," he said.

But Mr Ruder also hinted at a chain of events already known to Wall Street.

Faced with challenges from a battery of highly paid lawyers, government attorneys have encountered one legal block after another.

The staff is struggling with legal complexities at a time when the SEC budget is being cut sharply.

In addition, the focus of reformers has shifted from insider trading to the much broader problems that rocked the US financial system during and after Black Monday.

The result is that insider trading is likely to become a much smaller component of the most sweeping reforms on Wall Street in half a century than had been expected.

But Mr Boesky, source of the information that led US and British prosecutors to the Guinness case and to suspects among Wall Street's highest-

placed players, has not been completely forgotten.

Indirectly, he is the subject of an acclaimed film and several plays depicting greed and corruption on Wall Street.

He has cooperated extensively with Federal prosecutors while he pursues Talmudic studies at the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York.

Last week, in urging the court to proceed with his sentencing, which could result in a maximum prison term of five years, a chastened Mr Boesky told the judge he wanted to get on with his life.

He has already paid fines of more than \$100 million (£55 million).

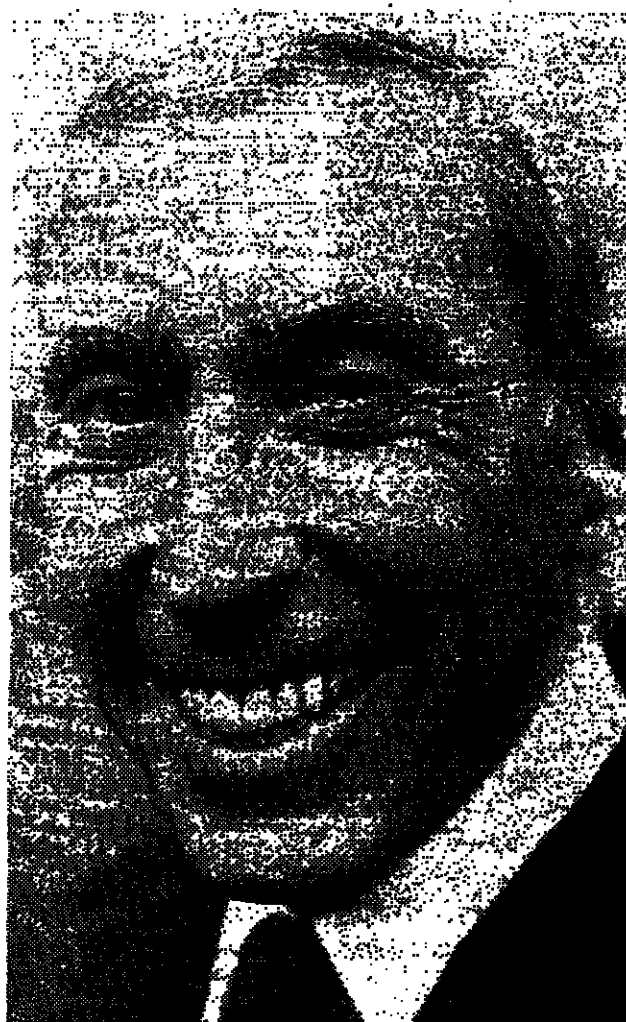
"I have spent the last year trying to understand how I veered off course. I would like the opportunity as I go forward to redeem myself and leave this earth with a good name," he said.

Mr Morris Lasker, the presiding judge, responded sympathetically but did not promise leniency. "The co-operation in this case was the most remarkable in the history of the US securities laws," the judge said.

Without providing details, Mr Lasker said Mr Boesky's information was so far-reaching that "it is not possible that the public knows what that co-operation has been."

Mr Boesky led US prosecutors to Mr Martin Siegel, a former official of Kidder, Peabody, who is awaiting sentencing on two federal charges; to Mr Boyd Jeffries, the former chairman of J.F. & J. Group; and to investigations of Mr Michael Milken, known on Wall Street as "the junk bond king" and his firm, Drexel Burnham Lambert. High-level officials were investigated at Goldman Sachs, Kidder, Peabody and other firms which are fighting the charges.

Federal officials said the trail on which Mr Boesky took them led to "larger crimes, a systematic corruption which undermined the financial



Ivan Boesky: 'I would like to redeem myself'

world," according to Mr John Carroll, an assistant US attorney.

The disclosures have provoked calls for sweeping reforms. In Congress, legislation has been proposed that would write a definition of what constitutes insider trading to facilitate prosecutions; make investment firms liable in some cases for the abuses of their employees; strengthen the "Chinese walls" which separate multiple investment functions handled by one company; increase fines and prison terms; and raise the SEC's enforcement capabilities.

But the initial public outrage that led to cries for reform has waned. Mr Ruder alluded to this in his testimony.

"Average Americans are yet to be convinced of the importance of securities laws," he said. The SEC had encountered multiple cases which included the "family connection," whereby one member passes on confidential information to another who trades on it.

"We need to prevent people in all walks of life from engaging in this activity," Mr Ruder said.

The American public, however, remains ambivalent towards those who have been convicted on insider trading charges. While some have been crushed by the notoriety, others have paid a price and re-emerged to prosper.

Mr Thomas Reed, a former Reagan Administration aide, said he was "living happily ever after," running a California property company. He reached a settlement with the SEC in which he paid a fine of \$431,000 on insider trading charges but admitted no guilt.

Mr Martin Siegel, who has been barred from the securities industry, lives in seclusion in a \$3 million mansion in Florida he bought this year while awaiting sentencing.

Mr Daniel Silverman, a member of the "Yuppie five," who received a suspended three-year prison sentence and paid a fine of \$25,000, now owns a car dealership in Providence, Rhode Island.

"When I am 30, I will be down in Palm Beach writing my memoirs. You will hear more about me," he said recently.

But Mr Dennis Levine, the former investment banker who led prosecutors to Mr Boesky, is serving a two-year sentence in a Federal prison where he is shunned by other inmates for cooperating with the government.

Similarly, Mr Ira Sokolow, the former Shearson Lehman official who pleaded guilty to leaking information to Mr Levine, has been unable to find a job since his release from prison on June 6.

Mr David Brown, the former Goldman Sachs banker who served a prison sentence, has been rehabilitated and is now a consultant in the property division of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of New York.

The judge who will sentence Mr Boesky said at an earlier hearing that he was prepared to believe that the fallen arbitrageur was reformed.

"I am prepared to believe that he is a reformed individual. I wish that were the end of the matter. But it cannot be and it is not."

Mr Boesky's lawyer told the judge his client has been working under an assumed name with the homeless at the Cathedral of St John the Divine in New York.

Small business confidence 'on the wane'

By Colin Narbrough

Confidence among Britain's small businesses waned in the third quarter of this year, a small foretaste of the worldwide jitters arising from the stock market crash of Black Monday.

At the same time, expectations for the present quarter show the trend continuing downwards.

These are two of the main findings contained in the latest quarterly survey published yesterday by the Small Business Research Trust, a publication backed by the National Westminster Bank.

The survey results contrast with the optimistic end-of-year picture painted for manufacturing industry by the Confederation of British Industry this week.

More than a quarter of the total respondents, representing nearly 1,000 small businesses, reported expanded sales and workforce.

But the figures showed that the proportion of businesses reporting improvement in sales and employment were considerably lower than levels in previous years, a decline that has continued in recent quarters.

In the current quarter the

proportion of sales and employment are expected to fall to still lower levels.

The survey suggests that the relative decline may reflect seasonal variations, but notes that the fears of small businesses also reflect concern about increased problems that government and big business might bring.

The total tax burden has become the small businessman's main worry, displacing finance and high interest rates for the first time since the survey started in 1984.

Respondents' reports of concern about the lack of skilled or trained employees showed a 50 per cent rise since last year.

Accountants come in for criticism from small businesses, with only 65 per cent of the respondents convinced that accountants' fees are reasonable.

Some 16 per cent felt accountants' services were unsatisfactory, but expanding firms appeared to have a higher opinion of the accountancy profession.

The Quarterly Survey of Small Business in Britain, published by the Small Business Research Trust, price £10.

VW expects little change in profits

Wolfsburg (Reuters) — Volkswagen said yesterday that 1987 profits for both the group and parent company would be around last year's levels.

In 1986, VW group's net profit slipped to DM580.2 million (£194 million) from DM595.6 million in 1985, while the parent company's net profit rose to DM485.2 million from DM476.8 mln.

The company said preliminary data showed record sales at home and in Europe this year, but lower deliveries to North and South America.

Domestic sales were expected to have reached 900,000 for the first time this year, up 5 per cent from 1986. Non-German European sales were a record 1.05 million, up 10 per cent.

VW topped the league of European makers for the third year running, with a market share of 15 per cent. The "excellent success" of VW's Audi 80 and 90 models helped total Audi sales rise 16 per cent to 420,000. VW sales to Japan and South Africa rose 29 and 31 per cent respectively.

VW said sales to the Americas fell, but total world deliveries for the year were expected to be only slightly below the 1986 level of 2.76 million models.

VW said it was confident about 1988, despite an inevitable drop in global demand

for cars after five years of steady growth in the industry.

VW said the outlook for 1988 had been clouded by uncertainty after the turmoil in financial markets and currency fluctuations. VW said it was up to government leaders to dispel these concerns.

"It is important that governments of leading industrial nations use their financial and budget policies to create the (right) conditions," VW said, joining the increasingly loud call from German industry that governments should do more to ensure steady growth.

VW said European car markets were likely to quieten next year after record sales in 1987. "But the level will still remain above average."

But the company gave a warning that satisfactory sales in 1988 would not be enough guarantee for the future.

VW expected demand in the US to fall further in 1988 on signs this year that the US car market had passed its peak.

Paris (Reuters) — The suspension of the French privatization programme will prevent the government from immediately writing off the £12 billion (£1.2 billion) of Renault debt linked to the reform of the car group's statute, even if that reform is approved by the National Assembly next month, sources close to M Edouard Balladur, the finance minister, said.

EFTA plans closer EEC link

By Colin Narbrough

As the EEC moves towards its 1992 deadline for creating a truly Common Market, the six member states of the European Free Trade Association have decided to seek closer ties with the Community, with Austria considering full EEC membership.

EFTA ministers, who held two days of talks in Geneva this week, decided to widen their notification system for trade barriers for industrial goods to include food and fish products, from July 1.

The organization, which groups Switzerland, Austria, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden, and included Britain until it joined the EEC, sees the removal of more trade barriers improving its position for negotiating closer ties with Brussels.

In their final communiqué, the ministers issued a call for closer co-operation with the EEC on the creation of a single European market.

Dr Alois Mock, the Austrian vice-chancellor, left the door open for Austria to quit EFTA in favour of the EEC, despite lingering doubts in Vienna about whether this would be compatible with the country's neutral status.

The Soviet Union, one of the powers that guarantees Austria's neutrality, has to date regarded the EEC as the economic face of the Western Alliance, and as clearly incompatible with political neutrality. Ireland, however, has

shown that neutrality need not be jeopardized by joining the Community.

Dr Mock said the Austrian cabinet had decided that the option of future accession was "not to be ruled out."

Ministers from the two trading blocks are due to meet in early February to discuss the plans for a genuinely Common Market in goods and services.

Regional moves to eliminate barriers to trade are expected to help Europe face the wider trade liberalization measures foreseen during the Uruguay Round talks of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, which seeks to improve trade worldwide.

Pesca in £900,000 sale deal

By Our City Staff

Eadie Holdings, the engineering company which joined the USM last year, is buying Pesca Engineering and its subsidiary, Manchester Metal Works, for a maximum £900,000.

Pesca manufactures rollers and ancillary equipment for use on curtain-sided vehicles.

The initial payment of £400,000, paid in shares, will be topped up by a total £500,000 if Pesca's pretax profits next calendar year reach £200,000. In the year ending June 30, Pesca and MMW made pretax profits of £85,000.

£16m acquisitions boost at Wheway

By Our City Staff

Wheway, the Birmingham engineer and drop forging specialist, is strengthening its environmental engineering interests with two acquisitions.

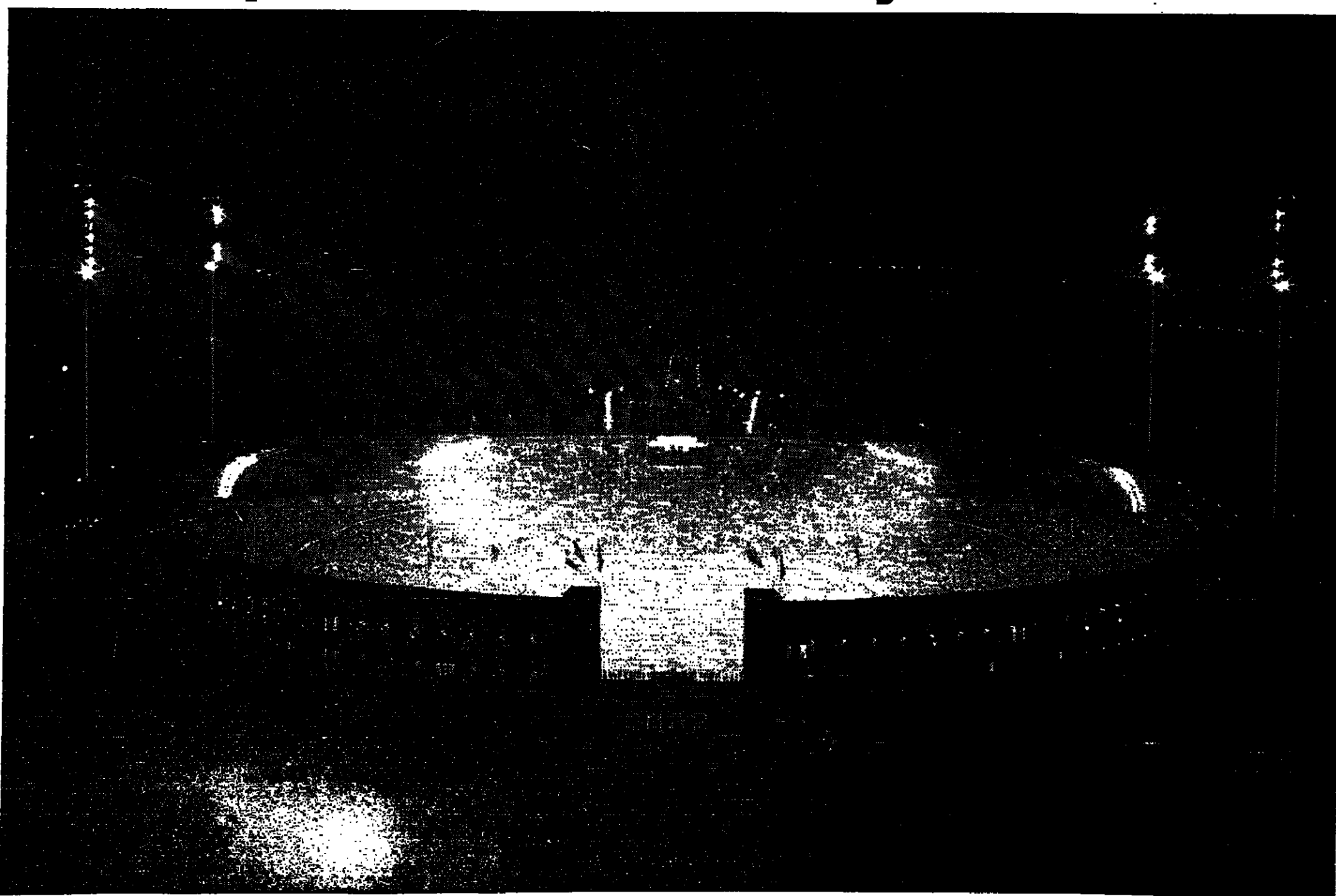
It is buying Interflita, which is well grounded in the British air filter market, and Cudd Bentley, a consulting engineer which does a lot of design work for High Street retailers.

The acquisitions will cost up to £15.9 million and will be financed mostly in new shares. They complement the purchase in April of Wright Airconditioning, a specialist air conditioning company for the computer industry.

News of Wheway's expansion accompanied figures showing a 20 per cent jump in pretax profits to £2.37 million on sales of £57.88 million for the year to October 3, despite a slight dip in profits at half time. Earnings per share rose from 199p to 2.32p. A final dividend of 0.5p makes 0.65p in all, compared with 0.5p the previous year.

Mr Ted Jaynes, chairman of Wheway, said the recent reorganization and restructuring of the company, coupled with yesterday's acquisitions, were part of a highly successful change of strategic direction by the group, which should result in significant improvements in cash flow.

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UNLISTED SECURITIES

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201															

Ireland	1.6550-1.6570	Denmark	6.2650-6.2700	Italy	119.55-119.60
Switzerland	1.2000-1.2020	Germany	1.6250-1.6275	Spain (Cm)	34.47-34.49
Australia	2.4500-2.4520	Switzerland	1.2515-1.3220	Hong Kong	7.7670-7.7700
Malaysia	0.7185-0.7171	Netherlands	1.8251-1.8321	Portugal	132.80-133.30
Canada	1.3050-1.3085	France	5.5010-5.5035	Spain	118.25-118.35
Sweden	5.9150-5.9200	Japan	128.53-128.53	Austria	11.43-11.46
Belgium	3.4600-3.4700				

[illegible]

3 mth: 5% 6 mth: 5% 12 mth: 5%
Local Authority Bonds (%)
1 mth: 5¹/₂-5³/₄ 2 mth: 5¹/₂-5³/₄ 3 mth: 5¹/₂-5³/₄
6 mth: 5³/₄-5% 9 mth: 5-5³/₄ 12 mth: 5¹/₂-5³/₄
Sinking CDs (%)
1 mth: 5¹/₂-5³/₄ 3 mth: 5³/₄-5% 6 mth: 5¹/₂-5³/₄
12 mth: 5³/₄-5¹/₂

GOLD

BULLION:
Open: \$487.75-488.25 Close: \$478.50-479.00
High: \$488.25-488.75 Low: \$472.50-474.00

Currency: Per coin (EX VAT)
Britannia: \$492.50-497.50 (£268.00-271.50)
Krugerrand: \$478.00-481.00 (£260.00-262.00)
Mapleleaf (1/100): \$492.50-497.50 (£268.00-271.50)
American Eagles: \$492.50-497.50 (£268.00-271.50)
New Sovereigns: \$112.50-113.50 (£61.25-62.00)
Old Sovereigns: \$112.50-114.00 (£61.25-62.25)
Panda: \$492.00 (£266.85)
Polonia: \$492.00 (£266.85)

ICIS-LOR Group
Prices crashed in the London morning amidst rumors
www.icis.com, all network business

CRUDE OIL (cassand) (BBL FOB)		GAS OIL (cassand) (BBL FOB)	
Brent Phys	15.15	Jan	---
15 day Jan	15.50	Feb	---
15 day Feb	15.00	Mar	---
wtb Jan	15.00		

WTI Feb	15.80	-60
WTI Mar	15.80	-60
PRODUCTS Buy/Sell \$MT.		
Spot CIF NW Euro - prompt delivery		
Prem Gas .15	-3	160-170
Gasoil EEC	11	145-148
Nom 1H Dec	-5	145-147
Nom 2H Jan	-9	140-141
W.S. Fuel Oil	7	
Apr	_____	_____
May	_____	_____
Jun	_____	_____
Jul	_____	_____
Aug	_____	_____
Sep	_____	_____
Oct	_____	_____
Nov	_____	_____
Dec	_____	_____
HWY FUEL		

35¢ Poin On	-7	64-66	-7	Jan	
Naphta	-7	135-136	-7	Feb	
				Vol	

DIFFER					
GRI Freight Futures Dry Cargo (\$10/pt)					
Jan 88	H	1255-1240	Low	Close	1245.0
Apr 88	H	1285-1265	Low	Close	1265.0
Jul 88	H	1130-1115	Low	Close	1118.0
Oct 88	H	1230-1225	Low	Close	1227.5

LONDON	
FUTURES	
Mar	Q
Feb	
Mar	
Apr	

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES					
	Open	High	Low	Close	Vol
Three Month Sterling					
Mar 95	90.53	90.67	90.47	90.55	5741
Jun 95	90.53	90.67	90.47	90.55	5741
Previous open interest 24356					
US Treasury Bond					
Dec 97	87-21	88-14	87-21	87-23	532
Previous open interest 2382					

[illegible]

Dec 88	91.41	\$1.28	\$1.21	\$1.27	42	Japanese Govt Bond	Previous open interest	588		
Mar 89	91.13	\$1.29	\$1.13	\$1.24	36	Mar 89	105.40	105.53	105.50	172
Jun 89	NT	—	—	\$1.04	0	Jun 89	NT	—	105.00	0

COMMODITIES

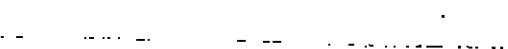
LONDON FOX		LONDON METAL EXCHANGE	
that Nigeria	COCOA	G W Johnson	Official rates in the market

1024-1025	Dec 1024-1025	Sep 1117-1118	CASH		3 month	Vol	Term
1025-026	Mar 1053-052	Dec 1137-1310	Copper (per lb)	1590.0-1570.0	1337.0-1330.0	21070	Irregular
1026-027	May 1073-072	Mar 1162-161	Copper Stand Lead	1282.0-1250.0	1310.0-1320.0	200	Quiet
1027-028	May 1093-091	Vol 2058	Lead	351.00-352.00	341.00-342.00	33475	Easy Side
COFFEE			Zinc H Side	463.00-464.00	458.00-468.00	21775	Steady
W Johnson		G W Johnson	Silver Largest	695.00-672.00	682.00-685.00	25	Up
1210-1211	Sep 1230-055	Nov 1235-055	Silver Smaller	695.00-672.00	682.00-685.00	25	Up
1212-1213	May 1235-055	Nov 1320-055					
1214-1215							
1216-1217							
1218-1219							

151.00-30.25	JUN 1972-268	Voi 3680	Alabama	1052.0-1055.0	891.00-902.00	206.25	Sry Stry										
151.00-30.00	AUG 1979	C Ccannish	Alabama HF	1840.0-1860.0	1840.0-1860.0	19760	Quiet										
122.00-31.50	FOE	Vok 5455	Hickal	4120-4125	4072-4076	5480	Steady										
122.00-31.00	MAY 1980-37.6	OCT 1974-47.0	(Cents per Troy oz., * (\$ per tonne))														
122.00-31.00	MAY 1980-36.4	DIC 1982-84.2	LONDON MEAT FUTURES (Pig)														
122.00-31.00	AUG 1980-35.4	MAR 1980-60.0						Use Pig Contract.									
12284	LONDON GRAIN FUTURES																
OE. Header	WHEAT - durum 60% - 14.00																
	MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION																
	A/rge fatback prices at representative																

[illegible]

عننا من الاعمال

<p>MILCARS</p> <p>Cost Controlled Motoring Plan including maintenance for the business user. Subject to status</p>		<p>518i Lux</p> <p>from £302.69 + VAT per month</p>	<p>520i Lux</p> <p>from £341.06 + VAT per month</p>	<p>525e Lux</p> <p>from £374.94 + VAT per month</p>	<p>528i</p> <p>from £432.69 + VAT per month</p>				
<p>Stanmore 01-951 1300</p>	<p>Radlett 09276 2412</p>	<p>Mill Hill 01-959 6961</p>	<p>Watford 0923 31717</p>	<p><small>ALL MERCHANDISE IS SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY. SOME LINES ARE AVAILABLE ON A FIRST COME FIRST SERVED BASIS.</small></p>					

Ban damage less to BBC than to realm Jury should consider whole statement

Attorney General v British Broadcasting Corporation
Before Mr Justice Owen
[Judgment December 17]

Taking into account the effect of the injunction on the life of the corporation and the harm likely to be caused to the security of the realm and the harm likely to be caused to the BBC in continuing the temporary injunction in merely postponing and not preventing the right to broadcast, the continuation of the injunction until trial was preferable to its discharge.

Mr Justice Owen so held in the Queen's Bench Division in dismissing an application by the BBC, the defendant, for the discharge of an interlocutory injunction granted to the Attorney General, the plaintiff, on December 4, 1987 by Mr Justice Henry banning the broadcasting of a proposed Radio 4 series, *My Country Right or Wrong*, about the British Security Services.

The BBC not having disclosed the script and the court having to decide the outcome on information deliberately limited by the defendant, the plaintiff thus had a good arguable case for a permanent injunction.

Having been satisfied that the plaintiff had a good arguable case the court next had to decide whether it was satisfied that the balance of convenience was in favour of the continuation of the injunction based on the *American Cyanamid* principles (1975) AC 396 governing applications for interlocutory injunctions.

Mr David Eady, QC, for the BBC, Mr John Laws for the Attorney General.

MR JUSTICE OWEN said that the purpose of an interlocutory injunction was to preserve the status quo until the rights of the parties had been determined in the action. The principle to be applied in deciding applications for such an injunction were explained in *American Cyanamid Co v Ethicon Ltd*. They applied as much to a case involving the Press as to any other.

The judge must first seek to decide the claim on affidavits as Lord Diplock said (at p407H): "It is no part of the court's function at this stage of the litigation to try to resolve conflicts of evidence on affidavits as to fact and on which the claims of either party may

ultimately depend nor to decide difficult questions of law which call for detailed arguments and mature consideration."

The plaintiff had however to establish that he had a good arguable claim. Lord Diplock stated (at p407G) that "the court must not doubt be satisfied that the claim was not frivolous or vexatious; in other words that there is a serious question to be tried". The plaintiff argued that he had such a claim and that there was such a question.

The Attorney General argued that the agents (former and present members of the security services giving comment in the BBC programme) received confidential information accessible to the public. Furthermore, their life-long obligation of confidentiality extended to third parties receiving information in breach of it.

The defendant argued that it was not confidential. The plaintiff replied that the fact that an agent was an agent was confidential and that any statement by a secret agent about his job involved a breach of confidentiality.

His Lordship said that that was fairly and properly arguable and was matter which should not be decided upon the say-so of the legal adviser to the defendant, nor for that matter at this stage of the proceedings.

The BBC argued that the information was already in the public domain. The plaintiff replied (1) that the restrictions and obligations of confidentiality still applied; (2) that it was impossible for the Government to say more without seeing the transcript of the intended broadcast.

The BBC said that the public interest would be better served by revelation of the material and that the Press and the BBC were in a privileged position in that so far as they were concerned, the only confidentiality to be respected by them was that which was proved to be necessary in a democratic society.

The defendant argued that the public interest would be better served by revelation of the material and that the Press and the BBC were in a privileged position in that so far as they were concerned, the only confidentiality to be respected by them was that which was proved to be necessary in a democratic society.

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TV enactment injunction stays until judgment

In re Channel Four Television Company Ltd

Before Lord Lane, Lord Chief Justice, Lord Justice O'Connor and Lord Justice Stephen Brown
[Judgment December 16]

The Court of Appeal (Criminal Division) refused to discharge an injunction, which it granted on an application of the Attorney General, ordering that the Channel Four Television Company be restrained from broadcasting any enactment of any part of the court proceedings in the appeal *R v Callaghan and Others*.

Mr John Mathew, QC and Mr Jonathan Caplan for the company; Mr John Laws for the Attorney General.

The LORD CHIEF JUSTICE, giving the judgment of the court, said that this was an appeal against an injunction, granted while the court was sitting at the Old Bailey, which prohibited the company from broadcasting a television programme based upon excerpts of the hearing of the then current

appeal of *R v Callaghan and Others*.

The court rejected the argument that the procedure adopted by the Attorney General in applying for the injunction was wrong in law. The Court of Appeal (Criminal Division) had jurisdiction as a superior court of record to ensure the protection of its own process. The power could be exercised by the court of its own motion or on an application of the Attorney General. Consequently the application had been correct and the court had the power and jurisdiction to act as it saw fit.

It was also argued that the programme was not potentially in contempt. If it had been in contempt at the time the injunction was granted it was no longer so as the hearing was over and the parties were only waiting for the reserved judgment to be delivered.

His Lordship said that deciding questions of degree was always difficult.

The company had sought to

draw analogies between the programme and ordinary Press reports of cases in the courts. But it seemed to the court that the television programme proposed was not analogous to Press reports.

Press comment did not pretend to be more than comment. The proposal here was for the portrayal of the court by actors. The portrayal of witnesses was of particular significance as it was pretending to be the real thing and was subtly inviting the viewer to sit in the judgment seat and make what he would think was his own comment on actual events.

Such a representation would not directly affect the judgment of the court but it would or might affect the public view of the judgment of the court.

It might be said that broadcast after the judgment had been

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On the hypothesis that the Attorney General's claim, if true, would succeed, the effect of continuing the temporary injunction now would be to deprive him, summarily and without a trial, of all opportunity of achieving that success and might do harm to the security of the realm.

On the alternative hypothesis that the Attorney General's claim, if true, would fail, the effect of continuing the temporary injunction until trial would only be to postpone, not to prevent, the exercise by the BBC of the right to publish which it would in that event have been established that it had.

His Lordship said that each party argued from high principle and neither suggested that damage could adequately compensate for an inappropriate decision at this stage and that he would not have to consider that at this stage.

He did, however, have to bear in mind on the one hand the desirability of not interfering unduly with the freedom of the BBC and the Press to publish information communicated to them and of possible public interest and on the other hand the necessity for the Government to ensure that the security services complied with their duty of confidentiality.

His Lordship said that the arguments were similar to those listed by Lord Brandon in the *Guardian* case (at p1287) and that he was well aware and adopted those relevant and applicable to this case.

1 The action brought by the Attorney General in this case had as its object the protection of an important public interest, namely the maintenance so far as possible of the secrecy of the British Security Service.

2 The injunction in issue was interlocutory. Here, as there, it was necessary to say that the fact that the injunction was temporary ought to be of the utmost importance. Its continuation until trial did not in any way prejudice the decision which had to be made at the trial on the validity of the Attorney General's claim to a final injunction.

3 The only way in which it could be decided whether the Attorney General's case should succeed or fail was by having the action tried.

Solicitors: Mr G. G. Dei Medico, Treasury Solicitor.

Regina v Sharp (Colin)
Before Lord Mackay of Clashfern, Lord Chancellor, Lord Havers, Lord Keith of Kinkel, Lord Bridge of Harwich and Lord Griffiths
[Speeches December 16]

Where a defendant who had not given evidence on his own behalf at his trial had made a statement to the police that was partly admission and partly self-exculpatory, and the statement had been put in evidence by the prosecution, the jury should have been directed to consider the whole statement, and not to give weight to the self-exculpatory part as they thought fit.

The House of Lords dismissed an appeal by the Crown from the Court of Appeal (Criminal Division) in *Regina v Sharp* (Colin), where the accused, Stephen Brown, Mr Justice Kenneth Jones and Mr Justice Turner) who had on January 20, 1987, allowed an appeal by the defendant, Colin Michael Sharp, against his conviction of burglary on March 11, 1986, at Southampton Crown Court (Judge Smithies and a jury).

Mr John Spokes, QC and Mr Stephen Parish for the Crown; Mr Roger Titheridge, QC and Mr Alistair Malcolm for the defendant.

LORD HAVERS said that on the facts of the case, a burglary had been reported. Two detective officers had gone to investigate. While driving towards the scene, they had seen the defendant running in the open. He had been followed, and he had got into a car and driven off at high speed. After a chase, they had lost him.

On March 4, he had gone voluntarily to the police station and had been interviewed. He had said that he had been in the area at the material time and had heard the burglar alarm but had given an innocent explanation for being there.

He had said that he had been looking for a small part that had dropped off his coat. He had denied that he had attempted to escape from the detective officers: he had not known that they were police officers.

At the trial he had not given evidence. In his summing up, the judge had treated the defendant's statement to the police as a "mixed statement", that is, a statement that was in part admission and in part exculpatory. He had directed the jury that they were entitled to regard that part of the defendant's account in which he said that he had been in the area at the material time as an admission and therefore evidence of the fact that he had been there, but that the other parts of the statement that explained his reason for being there were exculpatory and therefore not evidence of the facts related.

The Court of Appeal had held that the judge was wrong in directing the jury that the defendant's statement was not evidence of the truth of the facts related.

His Lordship accepted the definition of the hearsay rule in *Crowther v Manson* (1955) 38 Cr App R 388, an assertion other than one made by a person while giving oral evidence in the proceedings is inadmissible as evidence of any fact asserted.

The rule was so firmly entrenched that the reasons for its adoption were of little more than historical interest, but his Lordship suspected that the principal reason that had led judges to adopt it many years ago was the fear that juries might give undue weight to evidence of the truth of which could not be tested by cross-examination, and possibly also the risk of an account becoming distorted as it was passed from one person to another.

It was the application of the

had been contrary to their recent decisions in *R v Dunbar* (1981) 73 Cr App R 359 and *R v Hamand* (1985) 82 Cr App R 651. *Dunbar*, Lord Lane, Lord Chief Justice, had said, at p365:

"Where a 'mixed' statement is under consideration by the jury in a case where the defendant has not given evidence, it seems to us that the simplest, and therefore, the method most likely to produce a just result, is for the jury to be told that the whole statement, both the incriminating parts and the exculpatory parts, must be considered by them in deciding what the truth lies."

"It is to say the least, not helpful to try to explain to the jury that the exculpatory parts of the statement are something less than evidence of the facts they state."

"Equally, where appropriate, as it usually will be, the judge may, and should, point out that the incriminating parts are likely to be true (otherwise why say them?), whereas the exculpatory parts are likely to be false."

"Nor is there any reason why, where there is appropriate, the judge should not comment in relation to the exculpatory remarks upon the election of the accused not to give evidence."

Commenting on that passage, the Court of Appeal had said:

"That passage represented a departure from the approach to mixed statements which had undoubtedly been adopted for many years and may well have created difficulties amongst those judges who are called upon to try criminal cases. Be that as it may, that decision is binding on this court and it was followed in *Hamand*."

The House of Lords had given leave to appeal because that court might be taken to cast doubt on the correctness of the decision in *Dunbar*. However, an examination of the authorities showed that the approach in *Dunbar* was of respectable antiquity and that it was only in comparatively modern authorities that it had been questioned.

The difference in approach in the authorities was a reflection of the difficulties created in the law of evidence by the hearsay rule and its exceptions.

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The rule was so firmly entrenched that the reasons for its adoption were of little more than historical interest, but his Lordship suspected that the principal reason that had led judges to adopt it many years ago was the fear that juries might give undue weight to evidence of the truth of which could not be tested by cross-examination, and possibly also the risk of an account becoming distorted as it was passed from one person to another.

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His Lordship accepted the definition of the hearsay rule in *Crowther v Manson* (1955) 38 Cr App R 388, an assertion other than one made by a person while giving oral evidence in the proceedings is inadmissible as evidence of any fact asserted.

It was the application of the

Education for profit is not VAT-free Limit to jurisdiction of county court

Commissioner of Customs and Excise v Bell Concord Educational Trust Ltd

Before Mr Justice Taylor
[Judgment December 17]

A company was not exempt from value-added tax under Schedule 6 to the Value Added Tax Act 1983 when it ran educational establishments at a profit but which ploughed all its profits back into the business and which did not transfer any of its profits to its members.

Mr Justice Taylor so held in the Queen's Bench Division allowing an appeal by the Commissioners of Customs and Excise against the decision of a Manchester VAT tribunal which held the Bell Educational Trust Ltd exempt from VAT.

The Sixth Council Directive (77/388/EEC) provides by article 13A(1): "... member states shall exempt, the following undertakings, conditions or persons: (i) children's or young people's education ... provided by bodies governed by public law having such as their aim ...".

The 1983 Act provides by Schedule 6, group 6, item 2: "The provision, otherwise than for profit, of (a) education ... (b) training by a school or university" (is an exempt supply).

Mr Stewart Bates, QC and Mr David A. Staley for the company; Mr Guy Sankley for the commissioners.

MR JUSTICE TAYLOR said

in 1980 Mr Bell established the Bell Concord Educational Trust Ltd as a company limited by guarantee. Its objects were to promote and provide for the advancement of education and to carry on, acquire and develop schools.

Its memorandum of association provided that its income should be applied solely towards the promotion of its objects and no part of it should be paid or transferred to its members. In 1983 it was registered as a charity.

In fixing the fees payable the company budgeted for and achieved a substantial surplus of income over expenditure which was not to be taken as a claim for £3,000 for each of them. The county court therefore had jurisdiction since the prayer, properly construed, did not claim damages in excess of £5,000.

The Court of Appeal so held, dismissing an appeal by the defendant, Talbot Motor Company Ltd from Guildford County Court (Judge Main, QC) which on August 26 had allowed an appeal by the plaintiffs, Geoffrey Colin Doyle, Valerie Orington and Anthony Samuel Day, from the district registrar who had transferred the claim to the High Court on the basis that it was outside the jurisdiction of the county court because the plaintiffs claimed "damages limited to £3,000 for each plaintiff".

Section 15(1) of the County Courts Act 1984 provides: "... a county court shall have jurisdiction to hear and determine any action founded on ... tort where the ... damages claimed does not exceed (£5,000) ...".

Mr Rory McAlpine for the defendant; Mr Oliver Ticiatti for the plaintiffs.

LORD JUSTICE MAY said that *Leslie v Liverpool Corporation*

Doyle and Others v Talbot Motor Co Ltd

Before Lord Justice May and Mr Justice Ewbank
[Judgment December 16]

The most that could be recovered on a single claim in tort in the county court was £5,000, irrespective of how many plaintiffs were party to it. It was good practice for plaintiffs in the county court to plead that such a claim was limited to £5,000, but a failure to do so would not deprive the county court of jurisdiction provided that the prayer did not expressly claim a higher sum.

The prayer in a county court claim was to be construed strictly, and a statement that damages claim was limited to £3,000 for each of three plaintiffs was to be taken as a claim for £3,000 for each of them. The county court therefore had jurisdiction since the prayer, properly construed, did not claim damages in excess of £5,000.

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Burial grounds agreement exists in perpetuity

Watford Borough Council v Watford Rural District Council

Before Mr Justice Tudor Evans
[Judgment December 16]

An agreement between two local authorities concerning the provision of burial grounds was an agreement in perpetuity and it was impossible to imply a term that the agreement was determinable at the will of either party.

Mr Justice Tudor Evans so held in a reserved decision in the Queen's Bench Division giving judgment for the plaintiffs, Watford Borough Council, in an action against the defendant, Watford Rural District Council.

Mr Edward Cohen for the plaintiffs; Mr David Aaronberg for the defendants.

MR JUSTICE TUDOR EVANS said the plaintiffs claimed £17,355 under a written agreement made between the parties on May 18, 1963.

Before the date of that agreement the only two cemeteries in Watford, one in Armitage Road and the other in North West Avenue, were administered by the Watford Burial Joint Committee.

The plaintiffs owned the Armitage Road Cemetery; the defendants owned the North West Avenue Cemetery. The agreement was made in 1963 and the parties were joint tenants.

The plaintiffs provided six representatives on the committee and the defendants provided four. They shared the cost of administration, the proportions based on the rateable values in the areas for which each party was responsible.

By the mid-50s the cemeteries were being run inefficiently and uneconomically.

On May 18, 1963 the parties signed the agreement which was the subject of the present dispute.

The effect of the agreement was to dissolve the committee from July 1, 1963, to transfer its powers, duties and liabilities to

the plaintiffs from that date and to provide that the defendants, according to an agreed formula, would make an annual contribution towards the defendants' expenses in the maintenance of the cemeteries and burial grounds.

On July 31, 1963 the defendants conveyed their interest in the North West Cemetery to the plaintiffs.

The agreement operated until February 17, 1984 when the defendants gave twelve months' notice to terminate with effect from March 31, 1985.

The reason advanced for termination by the defendants was the unacceptably increased cost of the defendants' contribution towards the administration of the cemeteries.

It was common ground that the agreement did not contain a clause providing for its termination.

His Lordship found Mr Aaronberg's contention that the agreement was to last for a reasonable time, for the foreseeable future, but not indefinitely, too imprecise.

It had to be decided whether it was the intention of the parties that the agreement should exist in perpetuity or whether it was determinable at the will of either party upon reasonable notice.

At the time of the agreement, the defendants were a burial authority fixed with a statutory duty, perpetual in nature to provide a burial ground for the inhabitants and to maintain it.

That arrangement was reached between two local authorities for the discharge of a public duty to provide a public service under the Burial Acts.

His Lordship found that the onus was on the defendant to show it was the common intention of the parties that the agreement was to be determinable upon reasonable notice at any time, which the defendants had failed to do.

Solicitors: Sharpe Pritchard & Co for Mr R. M. McMillan, Watford; Bretherton & Co, St Albans.

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whether he was entitled to issue an authority to proceed under section 5(3), must have in mind the bars or impediments specified in section 9 to the ultimate order for the return.

His Lordship agreed, but that did not oblige the secretary of the court to proceed to a trial to proceed, whenever a bar or impediment existed.

It could be of a character which enabled it to be overcome by, for example, the passage of time. The fugitive (as in the present case) could be due to be released from prison in a matter of days, or by the passage of time combined with, some action.

An application, following the dismissal of an appeal or the expiration of time for appeal, could always be made for a charge lying on the file to be disposed of and could have been made in the present case to the Central Criminal Court.

In such circumstances it could quite properly appear to the secretary of state that the authority could be lawfully issued under section 5. His Lordship accordingly agreed with the Divisional Court that the mere fact that the charge had not, when the authority to proceed was issued, been disposed of,

did not invalidate the issue of that authority.

The second question in the appeal was whether the evidence submitted to the Bow Street Magistrate was admissible evidence under section 7(5).

Within the bundle of documents was a certificate containing a statement that the Australian magistrate had had "caused the said testimony [of each of the witnesses] to be reduced to writing". The written statements were already in existence.

If one excised from the certificate that statement, then there still existed a bundle of documents which purported to set out the evidence given on oath and subject to the question of due authentication by the magistrate, the evidence was admissible in evidence pursuant to section 11.

The section did not require each statement to carry on its face a certificate from the magistrate. Such a requirement would be highly artificial.

The section was complied with if there was a separate certificate, which sufficiently identified all the statements which it certified, as in the

instant case, where they were all tied together.

Accordingly the statements were admissible evidence pursuant to section 11 for the Bow Street Magistrate to consider.

The third question was whether the passage of time since the appellant was alleged to have committed the offence in Australia made it unjust or oppressive to return him to Australia.

It was contended that the period of custody of 17 months in England, from his re-arrest until the decision in the Divisional Court, represented in itself a sufficient sentence of imprisonment, assuming he was convicted.

Even on the assumption, which was a charitable one, that the appellant could pay in aid self-induced delay - because it was he who had challenged the magistrate's decision - the House could not speculate as to what would be the appropriate sentence for the offence, if it were established, for the Australian courts to impose.

Lord Mackay, Lord Bridge and Lord Templeman agreed.

Solicitors: Trutt & Gentry, Islington; Crown Prosecution Service, Headquarters.

Doyle and Others v Talbot Motor Co Ltd

Before Lord Justice May and



Champion swing: Faldo played with class and courage

Mitchell Platts, Golf Correspondent, looks back on the year of the first million pound man

Faldo captures the eternal dream

Separating Nick Faldo and Ian Woosnam, whose impact around the world has been nothing short of sensational, in terms of achievement in 1987 is a sticky task because the Open Championship, won by Faldo, is the prestige reward on offer in the game.

Woosnam ranks among the most popular of winners — as reflected by the encouragement he received from a partisan American gallery as he propelled Wales towards their historic triumph in the World Cup of Golf in Hawaii last month.

Yet the eternal dream, as every student of golf or experienced schoolboy will vouch, is to win the Open Championship. To the vast majority it remains as elusive as a shadow. Faldo, however, exhibited both his class and courage to defy the elements, and the occasion, and link together four solid rounds for his victory at Muirfield in July.

Whatever else may happen to Faldo during his career, and presumably there is much more to come as he is only 36, he has now reserved a place in history alongside such exalted company as Taylor and Vardon, Cotton and Jones, Nicklaus and Watson. His name is engraved with theirs on the silver claret jug.

As a confirmed follower of the fortunes, and failings, of Faldo, I fervently hope that he can fully bear those mysteries of life which seem on occasions to weigh heavily on his shoulders. There have been times when Faldo has been misunderstood, but on other occasions he has

leapt to his own defence with a passion that is best kept for the fairways.

In retrospect Faldo, the product of the 1970s, must have suffered mentally as contemporaries Severino Ballestrero, Bernhard Langer and Sandy Lyle all won major championships before he did.

His frustration heightened as other rivals such as Howard Clark and Sam Torrance threatened to overtake him and newcomers like Gordon Brand Junior, Rossie Rafferty and the Spanish José María Olazábal pushed ajar the door to a new era.

Now as the owner of an Open championship, Faldo no need to be intimidated by them or by Woosnam's charismatic presence. Faldo and Woosnam may have successfully dethroned the Ryder Cup but they are as different as chalk and cheese.

That is how it should be because, without a variety of characters, the European golf scene would be as uninteresting as a Christmas tree without lights.

Instead it is a vibrant arena, brimful of talented players and, as 1987 reaches the nineteenth hole, so European golf can rightfully claim to be showing the world the way.

That view, of course, must apply strictly to our male professionals. Much as Laura Davies, with her momentous victory in the US Open at Plainfield, New Jersey, in July, stirred our imagination, it will

SONY RANKINGS

		Pts
1	G Norman (Aus)	1,281
2	S Ballestrero (Sp)	1,189
3	L Langer (Ger)	1,112
4	A Lyle (GB)	673
5	C Strong (US)	673
6	I Woosnam (GB)	630
7	P Stewart (US)	717
8	L Wadkins (US)	587
9	M McMillan (Zim)	573
10	B Cronshaw (US)	568
11	P Ashby (US)	549
12	L Wilson (US)	545
13	R Davis (Aus)	528
14	N Faldo (GB)	523
15	T Nakajima (Japan)	517
16	T Watson (US)	516
17	S Simpson (US)	502
18	M Ozaki (Japan)	501
19	A Aoki (Japan)	500
20	H Sutton (US)	579

Other British in top 100: 33, G Brand Jr (GB), 625; 41, M Clark (GB), 551; 44, S Torrance (GB), 549; 58, R Fairley, 282; 62, K Brown, 240; 68, G J Brand, 232.

require much endeavour on the part of the women for them to match their American counterparts.

In fairness, the WPGA Tour is little more than a fledgling compared to the US LPGA Tour. Dale Reid, however, had the satisfaction of winning on four occasions and leading the Woolmark Order of Merit with \$53,815. Alison Nicholas can be applauded on making her first victory as a professional, in the Westbrix British Open, and Trish Johnson emphasized exactly what can be achieved on American soil by winning her player's card for the LPGA Tour by finishing first in the qualifying school in October.

That must have been the last

straw for the suffering golfers of the United States. Sandy Lyle showed the way by winning the Tournament Players Championship, hosted by the US PGA Tour as the fifth major championship, at Ponte Vedra, Florida, in March, and Ken Brown came along in October to win the Southern Open by no fewer than seven shots at Green Island, Columbus, Georgia.

One week earlier, on the outskirts of Columbus, Ohio, the United States, for the first time on their own soil, waved goodbye to the Ryder Cup. Europe retained Samuel Ryder's elegant golden chalice with an inspired performance under the astute leadership of Tony Jacklin.

In 1988 it will be the turn of Britain and Ireland to defend, at Royal St George's, Sandwich, the Curtis Cup which they won on American soil in 1986. The United States, however, kept possession of the Walker Cup with their win at Seaside in May, although Britain and Ireland entered that particular confrontation without the experienced Peter McEvoy and Garth McGimpsey by courtesy of the short-sighted selectors.

The amateurs switch ranks more rapidly nowadays, noticed by a European tour which next year will be worth in excess of £10 million, and that, of course, reduces the possibility of the United States ever being beaten again in the Walker Cup.

Colin Montgomerie, winner of the Scottish Championship, is among the new arrivals and Peter Baker,

who left the amateur scene in 1986, was recently named Henry Cotton's "Rookie of the Year".

Baker still faces a long haul to the top in a professional world which has become increasingly competitive in Europe with the emerging continental stars such as the industrious Swedes.

Woosnam, however, is as knowledgeable as anybody on the difficult road to the top. For three years he was just another ambitious youngster as he paid his dues with successive failures to the qualifying school. In 1981 he earned less than £2,000 for his efforts and it was not until 1982 that he won an official European tournament for the first time.

Woosnam won eight tournaments this year and helped Europe to win the Ryder Cup and Wales, with David Lewellyn, to win the World Cup. He also earned in prize money more than £1 million — the first player in history to achieve that — and he was No. 1 in the European Order of Merit.

Ian Woosnam, 5ft 4½in of him, was a tower of strength. In 1988 he will hope to relieve either Larry Mize (US Masters), Scott Simpson (US Open) or Larry Nelson (US PGA Championship), of one or all of his trophies.

If you gave him the choice, however, he would plump for one — the Open Championship, which Nick Faldo will defend with pride and passion at Royal Lytham and St Annes.

TENNIS: A RETURN TO SPORTSMANSHIP IN FINAL OF THE DAVIS CUP

City of pirates is waiting for an Indian massacre

From Rex Bellamy
Tennis Correspondent
Gothenburg

For three days we can forget about the unpleasant nonsense associated with professional sport in general and tennis in particular — the tantrums, the bungling bureaucracy, the money, the rankings, the drug tests and the widespread discontent. Sweden are playing India in the final of the world team championship for the Davis Cup.

The players of both nations are exemplary sportsmen. Consequently, this climax of the tennis year should be a genuine sporting occasion. But the Swedes are the strongest team in the world and are playing at home on the surface they prefer — clay, specially installed in the largest indoor arena (12,400 seats) in the Nordic nations.

There is no reason why Sweden should lose any of the five matches, but every reason to expect the teams to enjoy each other's company — and their tennis, too. The public should respond to all that. Yesterday's draw was at-

tended by about 300 people and, incidentally, demonstrated that both teams knew how to bow (British players, please note).

Hasse Olsson, the Swedish captain, has decided not to ask too much of Stefan Edberg, who nicked an ankle during practice. So Anders Jarryd will play singles in a Davis Cup final for the first time — and is looking forward to the respon-

ORDER OF PLAY

Today: M Wilander v R Krishnan; A Jarryd v V Amritraj. Tomorrow (provisional): Jarryd & S Edberg v V & A Amritraj. Sunday: Jarryd v Krishnan; Wilander v V Amritraj.

sibility and the chance of a modest glory.

Vijay Amritraj, who celebrated his 34th birthday on Monday, would have preferred to play the first singles. "But we have to put our best foot forward", he said, after the draw, "and Ramesh has the best foot."

Asked about the Swedish choice of Jarryd rather than Edberg, Amritraj observed that it would make no dif-

ference, because Sweden had the four best players in the world on clay (he must have forgotten about Ivan Lendl). "Whoever they played, they would be favourites".

Krishnan said the final was a dream come true. "I never thought we would get this far. It's very special to me — and the whole family. My father has told me to enjoy myself to play free, to play loose." His father, Ramanathan, who is here for the occasion, played in the 1966 final (then known as the Challenge Round) against Australia — India's first appearance in the last tie of the competition. This is the first time father and son in turn have played in the final tie.

Another historic link is that Vijay Amritraj played for the only other Indian team to reach the final: in 1974, when political interference insisted that South Africa should win the Davis Cup on a walk over.

Thanks to Bjorn Borg and Ove Bengtsson, Sweden won the Davis Cup for the first time in 1975. Olsson, appointed in 1982, has been their luckiest and most

successful captain. This is Sweden's fifth consecutive appearance in the final, a record matched only by Britain, Australia, the United States and France — in the days when the holders had to play only one tie, the Challenge Round.

Gothenburg is a delightful city, set on a hill overlooking a sea strewn with islands. It has Scandinavia's largest port and Sweden's longest summer and tallest greenhouses. The city has a history associated with piracy, iron and herrings. For some reason that nobody can adequately explain, its first city council included 10 Dutchmen and a Scot. There is no record of Indian evidence — nor is there likely to be.

Chris Lewis, of New Zealand, the former Wimbledon finalist, has signed for Woking to lead their challenge in next year's £90,000 Mortgage Corporation National Tennis League.

HAMBURG — Steffi Graf, the world's No. 1 woman tennis player, has undergone surgery to correct a sinus problem (Reuters reports).



Single minded: Jarryd, preparing to make his first singles appearance in the Davis Cup

ROWING

ARA appoint two junior specialists

By Jim Railton

The Amateur Rowing Association (ARA) has appointed two schoolmasters to the posts of full-time professional national coaches. They are Bruce Grainger, aged 41, of Wallingford, and Nigel Weare, aged 25.

Grainger, who has been at Wallingford School for 18 years, teaches physics and chemistry and is in charge of computer studies at the school. Weare, who has a degree in French, is master in charge of rowing at Forest School, Scarborough.

In 1970 Grainger was awarded a Winston Churchill Travelling Fellowship and studied the organization and conduct of sport in West Germany and Austria. He was a disciple of the late Karl Adam, aged 25, top coach at the time, and understudied him in Ratzburg, West Germany. After that he was responsible for a number of notable junior national and international successes. Three world junior bronze medals and a silver have been achieved from Wallingford's modest population.

He has had a considerable influence on British junior row-

ing and is presently a member of the International Rowing Federation's junior committee. Grainger hopes that he will be involved in a wide range of activities but he will be wasted if coaching is not included in his brief.

Graduates from his coaching school have included the Oxford blues Bill Lang and former president John Wiggins. Grainger said yesterday: "I see this as the biggest challenge of my life which will enable me to share knowledge and experience with other coaches and rowers."

It could be that both might get involved in producing new projects for juniors, which Henry Royal Regatta has generously promised to support with up to £50,000 next year. While Grainger's own rowing career was a modest one, at University College School and Reading University, Weare learned to row at Stretton College, Epsom, and secured Great Britain to a bronze medal in the world junior championships in Moscow in 1979. The new men should have a considerable influence on the sport.

BASKETBALL

United gallant in defeat

From Nicholas Harling, Paris

Une soirée difficile. L'Equipe, the French sports daily, warned beforehand. And so it was, not only for Manchester United but, more significantly, for Racing Paris.

"As far as English clubs are concerned, we're no longer second-class citizens, it's for sure," Joe Whetton, United's coach, said after his team had pushed the French club to the limit before going down 97-88 in Wednesday's Korac Cup tie.

The defeat has virtually ended United's chance of being the one club to progress from their quarter-final pool. Considering that the entire six-match programme was regarded beforehand as nothing more than "a learning process" by Whetton, in view of the strength of the opposition, United ought to feel satisfied. Frustration is more like it.

Having to start the game

without Penny, who could not get time off, and Dolan, their ineligible American, was bad enough. Losing Fogarty, their top-scoring England international, for five minutes after he had aggravated an ankle sprain merely increased United's handicap.

For a team that had recovered from its initial confusion against a zonal defence to take control, the depleted English club was certainly entitled to feel that their gallantry had been ill-rewarded. "We couldn't have got any closer," Byrd said. "If we had another big player we could have won the whole pool. We're not that far away."

That is not to detract from the efforts of United's two big English forwards, Hogarty and Gardner. They were both outstanding — as was Dubois, the French international.

GYMNASTICS

New stage to perfect their craft

By Peter Aykroyd

With the staging of the Kraft International tomorrow and Sunday, the British sport has set up its new home at Alexandra Palace. The 11-nation tournament is the first international to be held there since the British Amateur Gymnastics Association relinquished Wembley Arena as its chief venue for major events last summer.

However, the 24 competitors will have to perform on this occasion at floor level and not on the familiar BAGGA podium. The vast platform will be relocated from Wembley in the new year for use in the Palace's West Hall.

The overall championship takes place tomorrow followed by the apparatus finals on Sunday. The British are fielding four gymnasts: Andrew Morris, the national men's champion; Grainger, who won the British No. 3, who takes the place of the injured Lisa Elliott, the national women's champion; Roman Edwards, an experienced international; and Lisa Grayson, at 15 a bright prospect in the senior British squad.

Much interest will be centred on the contestants from the Soviet Union and Romania, world leaders in men's and women's gymnastics respectively. The two countries are entering their youth champions — the Soviets Maxim Djomkin and Olga Kutina, and the Romanians, Adrian Catanoai and Gabriela Gheorghiu — most of whom no doubt will shine in world events in the 1990s.

The Soviets are in a stronger position to take the top all-round places as they have also entered their world championship team reserves, Sergei Rambovits and Natalia Lachenova, but Rambovits and Djomkin will have to subdue other world-class contenders such as Yu Bo, of China, and Dian Kolev, of Bulgaria.

Miss Lachenova and Miss Kutina will also face challenges of global status such as Qin Qishi, the Chinese national bronze medal winner, the veteran Tunde Zelinszky, of Hungary, and Yoko Yamakawa, a promising world performer.

Errors spoil lavish review

Sports writers of The Times present their selections from the sports books of 1987. Today: **BARRY PICKTELL** on the best of the year. **JOHN GOODBODY** with his selection and **NORMAN DE MESQUITA** on ice hockey.

It has been a remarkable year for the British sportsman. In 12 metres crews from America, New Zealand and France battling it out off Fremantle for the right to race Australia in the America's Cup. Dennis Corner won that and a place in history by becoming the first man to lose and win back this bottomless victorian error.

On a more human level, Philippe Jeantot overcame the Brit waters of the Southern Ocean to round Cape Horn alone and win his second BOC single handed round the world race before his fellow French-

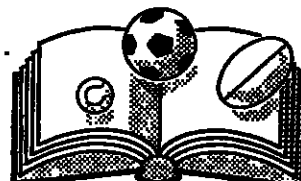
The reissuing of out-of-print sports books has become a distinct vogue in publishing. Few books have captured the essential spirit of sport with the same authority as *Testament of a Runner*. I must plead a self-interest because I persuaded the publishers to reprint it. I wanted the new generation of runners and joggers to share the satisfaction of those who first read in the 1960s, the experiences of W. R. Leader in the 1930s during which he won the AAA junior 100 yards title and represented Cambridge University.

The book works well because its central theme is the spirit of an athlete: the enduring questions of why he competes and exercises, the anxiety before an event, the pleasure to be gained from running fast and the struggle between conscience and reason in a training session.

In the first part he traces the origins of many sports and events, particularly the Olympic Games, and in a revised section, looks at the problems and issues of sport today. *The Politics of Sport* explores

There are two newcomers and one old friend for ice hockey book shelves. The old friend is the eleventh edition of *"Ice Hockey Annual"* into which Stewart Roberts has again crammed almost everything a fan needs to know about last season, home and abroad.

A companion volume is Gordon Wade's *"Facts and Figures Book"* which, as might be expected from the sport's leading statistician, includes every conceivable record, but it con-



SPORTS BOOKS OF THE YEAR

man, Philippe Poupon, dashed across the Atlantic from Sandy Hook, New York, to the Lizard aboard the British designed trimaran *Plum* in the remarkable record time of 7 days 12 hours.

A significant new book reviewing these and other principal successes during this past season is *Sailing Year*, a lavish new international racing annual just published.

The other relates Philippe Monnet's supposed round the world non-stop single-handed voyage in the 65-foot trimaran *Kriter Brut de Brut*. The Frenchman, whom the book lists among its top 10 personalities, did in fact make three stops — the book nevertheless, credits him with a new one-stop record.

● *The Sailing Year - An International Publishing Annual* (Hazelton Publishing, £19.95). Other title

● *Comeback - my race for the America's Cup*, Dennis Corner with Bruce Stannard (Bloomsbury, £13.95).

● *Science*. Leader writes, "can tell us something of a fact already known, but doesn't make a big contribution towards discovering the ultimate 'why'." *Testament of a Runner* may not give the answer, but more than any other book I have read it addresses itself to the question.

● *Sport in Society*, Peter McLennan (West London Press, £7.95).

● *The Politics of Sport*, edited by Lincoln Allison (Manchester University Press, £25).

Liberalized, "Flashing Blades" is required reading for anyone even remotely interested in ice hockey.

● *The Ice Hockey Annual*, edited by Stewart Roberts (Crowood Press, £5.95).

● *The Ice Hockey Facts and Figures Book*, Gordon Wade (obtainable from 298 Salisbury Road, Totterham, Southampton, £3).

● *Flashing Blades*, Phil Drackett (Crowood Press, £12.95).

Errors spoil lavish review

Sadly, where this ambitious book falls down is on facts. Two important items in particular are totally misrepresented. The brief account given to the I-Punkt cheating scandal that has rocked the offshore racing world this season, bears little relationship to the evidence published by the jury and sailors concern.

The other relates Philippe Monnet's supposed round the world non-stop single-handed voyage in the 65-foot trimaran *Kriter Brut de Brut*. The Frenchman, whom the book lists among its top 10 personalities, did in fact make three stops — the book nevertheless, credits him with a new one-stop record.

● *The Sailing Year - An International Publishing Annual* (Hazelton Publishing, £19.95). Other title

● *Comeback - my race for the America's Cup*, Dennis Corner with Bruce Stannard (Bloomsbury, £13.95).

● *Science*. Leader writes, "can tell us something of a fact already known, but doesn't make a big contribution towards discovering the ultimate 'why'." *Testament of a Runner* may not give the answer, but more than any other book I have read it addresses itself to the question.

● *Sport in Society*, Peter McLennan (West London Press, £7.95).

● *The Politics of Sport*, edited by Lincoln Allison (Manchester University Press, £25).

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When Ireland beat England 5-4 in Dublin they gave notice of better things to come, although that match had no bearing since England were already assured of the title. So, too, did Wales who not only finished third but also beat Ireland 4-3 when Gwynn dominated. With Colclough in support, he could inspire Wales to nobler deeds.

TODAY'S MATCHES: Scotland v Wales (7.00); England v Ireland (8.00); Tottenham v England (8.00); Scotland v Ireland (11.00); Ireland v Wales (2.00); Scotland v England (2.00).

HOCKEY

Scots put England in a corner

By Sydney Friskin

The art of corner-taking could play a crucial part in the Home Countries indoor championship, starting today at Bells Sports Centre, Perth, where England will defend the title they won in January.

England's conversion rate in Dublin, though they defeated Scotland 4-3 in the deciding match of the round robin series, was not particularly impressive and Clarke, an expert in this department of play, will be on the bench in his capacity as a coach. No doubt the team will benefit from his expert advice.

With Halliday, Grimley and Jennings, England are not short of effective corner strikers, but they may need to hone this art to reach the inevitable customary from Christie and Leiper for Scotland.

In other aspects England appear to have a slight edge, particularly goalkeeping, but everything may depend on temperament when Scottish fervour will be at its highest. Although the only British side to qualify for the European championship in Vienna late next month, Scotland, have still a point to prove. The Scots have dominated this championship in its 13 years and an eventual shootout with England has generally been the norm. That accounts for the two sides meeting tomorrow in what everybody expects will be the crunch match.

These calculations could, however, be upset by Ireland, whose inability to seize chances has been the constant root of their troubles. That they can afford to leave out Crawford, an outstanding player who has made 60 appearances, shows that they have an abundance of talent. Martin and McConnell are as shrewd and inspiring indoors as they are with the British team outdoors.

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RUGBY LEAGUE

Setting the target for Leeds success

By Keith Macklin

An old sporting adage seems ready to be laid to rest by Leeds. It is the one about success not being bought with money.

The fact is that Wigan have dominated the 13-a-side code for three seasons because they spent huge sums on recruiting the best players from Britain, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa.

Now Leeds, who finished fifth from the bottom of the first division last season, and who were at one stage in danger of relegation, have spent around £750,000 on outstanding players, and are in the final of the John Player Special Trophy and the first division's top fight.

When the holders of the purse strings at Headingley splashed out record sums of £172,500 on Lee Crooks, and then £178,000 on Garry Schofield, plus the outlay on four top Australians and the New Zealand All Blacks, Mark Brooke-Cowden, there were those close to the club who shook their heads.

They were not convinced that this vast outlay would bring instant success on the playing field and pointed out that the balance sheet should be heading for a horrendous loss at the end of the season.

The latter prospect still exists, but the appearance of Leeds in John Player final at Wigan, on January 5, has answered the first doubt, particularly since the most spectacular impact on last Saturday's semi-final against Wigan was made by the world's costliest player, the Great Britain centre, Schofield.

Like all players and coaches, Maurice Bamford, the Leeds and former Great Britain coach, is content to leave financial matters to others.

He has his own definition of success. "I do not think we have achieved any real success as yet, but we have put together a few games in which we have played well," he says. "Success has many different definitions. It can be playing good quality football with or without trophies. It can be big crowds and high gate receipts or it can be purely and simply a matter of winning trophies."

Bamford adds that his ideal of success is the winning of the championship, the long haul over 26 City Road, which makes heavy demands on a squad's skill, strength and durability.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

7.30 unless stated

Barclays League
First division
Luton v Southampton (7.45)
Sheff Wed v Coventry (7.45)
Wimbledon v Norwich (7.45)

Second division
A Villa v WBA
Ipswich v Shrewsbury (7.45)

Third division
Chester v Bury
Gillingham v Walsall (7.45)
Hull City v Exeter

